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Yugoslavia

Federal—Socialist Party of Serbia and Serbian Radical Party deputies made a motion before the Federal Assembly "that Milan Panic's government should receive a vote of no confidence," TANJUG reports. "Both parties' representatives cited disregard for the Assembly's conclusions on the stands that should have been advocated in London as the principal reason behind this initiitaive of theirs."

According to TANJUG, Prime Minister Milan Panic "warned" Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic "that he will demand his resignation" if Milosevic does not agree with "each of Panic's 12 points" presented at the London conference.

Bosnia-Hercegovina

President Alija Izetbegovic described talks at the Conference on Yugoslavia as "difficult," Sarajevo radio reports. He added: "One of the London conference conclusions is to continue talks in Geneva. If the bombardment of towns continues, however, we will not attend any further talks."

Croatia

After returning from the Conference on Yugoslavia, President Franjo Tudjman "stated that the Croatian delegation can be completely satisfied with the conference and its conclusions." According to Zagreb radio, Tudjman added that this particular meeting "gave the most results."

Slovenia

Commenting on the Conference on Yugoslavia, Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel said: "The London conference represents a step forward in the efforts to stop the war, but not the final solution to the crisis in the former Yugoslavia," Ljubljana radio reports.

Romania

President Ion Iliescu and Moldovan President Mircea Snegur held talks on 28 August, Bucharest radio reports. Following the talks, Iliescu stated: "We had a useful meeting that I believe will mark one step forward in the process of developing our bilateral relations." Snegur noted that "one of the major subjects we discussed was to continue to find a peaceful settlement to the conflict in the eastern parts of the Republic of Moldova." He also said: "We intend to create free commercial zones between Moldova's rayons and Romania's counties."

Czechoslovakia

Bratislava TV, on the eve of a Slovak National Council discussion of the draft Slovak constitution, carried an address by Ivan Gasparovic, chairman of the council. In the speech, Gasparovic stated: "The draft constitution of the Slovak Republic outlines the direction of democratic development and progress in all spheres of our people's life," and he noted: "Certain comments, and the fact that they are being blown out of proportion for political reasons, should not make you pessimistic."

Poland

PAP reports President Lech Walesa sent letters to government officials in which he urged "the parliament to start working on what is really important for Poland, that is, economic problems, law-abidingness, and above all control of corruption and fraud." Walesa wrote that he thought "that some members of parliament had forgotten what their real duties were." He also stated: "Nobody and nothing will ever forgive squandering of people's hopes and wasting the historic opportunity which Poland has now."

Defense Minister Visits U.S. Frigate

AU3008150692 Tirana ATA in English 0808 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Tirana, August 30 (ATA)—On August 29, the Minister of Defense Safet Zhulali paid a visit to the U.S. frigate John Hall, which has come to the port of Durres. In the ship board he was welcomed by the commander of the frigate Colonel Donald Gayger. Present was also the U.S. ambassador in Tirana, Ryerson and the Military Attache of the U.S. Embassy Lieutenant Colonel John Grygehouse.

In the meeting organized on the occasion, the commander of the U.S. frigate expressed his pleasure and of all the effective for the visit in Albania. "In the name of the Americans, the U.S. fleet, a small part of which is also our ship, I wish you successes and ensure you of our support in your road", he said.

Minister Zhulali voiced the pleasure of the meeting with representatives of the most powerful fleet in the world. "In the name of the Albanian Government and in my own name, I voice our gratitude for the support and guarantee of the U.S. Government for democracy in Albania" he said. He stressed that the visit of the U.S. ship in Albania is a powerful support for Albania. I would like, Mr. Zhulali stressed, that our contacts be more frequent since we need your experience and support. At the same time, he wished consolidation to the U.S. fleet in favor of peace and stability in the world.

Besides, on August 29, the leading staff of the U.S. frigate was received in the Army General Staff, where talks were conducted between military men of both countries.

IMF Signs Agreement, Approves Reform Program

AU2808141792 Tirana ATA in English 0944 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Tirana, August 28 (ATA)—On August 6, 1992, according to an information of the Ministry of Finances and Economy, our mass media informed that the program of the economic reform drafted in cooperation with the Monetary Fund staff, was approved by his Director General Mr. Michel Camdessus and was submitted for final approval to the Executive Council, which is also the decision-making organ of the Monetary Fund.

According to a message the Ministry of Finances and Economy has received, on August 26, 1992, the Executive Council of the Monetary Fund voted in favour of approving a Stand-By Agreement with Albania. According to a previous report, this Stand-By Agreement is a short-term loan, making up 80 percent of our country's quota in the Monetary Fund, which is provided to back up our balance sheet of payments. The double importance of this agreement is that its approval is an important signal for the other countries pointing to the guarantee of the Albanian reform, serving as a catalyzer for attracting other foreign currency sources in the form of direct credits and investments.

After the final approval of the Stand-By Agreement between Albania and the Monetary Fund, talks will begin within September to reach another bilateral agreement, which will back up the structural reforms. The financing level provided under the second agreement is the same with the newly approved one, and the repaying conditions are consensual.

The report congratulates once again the team of Albanian specialists, who could manage in a relatively short time to draft a program including a full package of reforming measures, consequently enjoying a full international support. Among the most promising achievements in the context of this reform is the almost complete delivery of the arable land, as well as the very radical measures to reduce inflation, whose effectiveness will eventually prove also the success of the reform as a whole.

Berisha Assures Trade Union of 'Urgent' Measures

AU2808142792 Tirana ATA in English 0941 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Tirana, August 28 (ATA)—On August 27, the President of the Republic Sali Berisha received a delegation of the Union of the Albanian Independent Trade Unions headed by Mr. Valer Xheka. They discussed about the demands forwarded by the Union of the Trade Unions. In this meeting they agreed that the government take urgent measures to rapidly apply the Law on Enterprises and the setting up of the administrative council. The trade unions will contribute in this direction.

Likewise the president assured them that the government has procured financial resources and will soon supply shops with basket food stuffs.

Whereas, as regards to the wages he confirmed that in September starts the increase of wages of the budgetary enterprises, which will facilitate the difficulties created by the prices liberalization.

Commentary Calls London Conference 'Step Forward'

AU2808192692 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1330 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Vladimir Picani commentary]

[Text] After two days of intensive discussions and debates, the awaited London conference on peace in the former Yugoslavia lowered its curtain. Of course, it is still early to draw detailed conclusions on the results of this conference. For those who had high hopes for this conference, these results at first sight may perhaps seem a bit disillusioning, whereas for skeptics and pessimists, the conference achieved more than was expected. Nevertheless, one thing can be said for sure: This conference took a step forward to create several premises and

organizational structures to go toward the solution of this conflict. The public opinion and world political circles were further sensitized for a greater commitment in this direction.

What dominated in this conference and can be considered one of its most positive aspects was that its participants unanimously condemned Serbia as the main reason for bloodshed in the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. Thus, British Prime Minister John Major, who together with the UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali were the coleaders of the conference, forcefully stressed that if Serbia does not stop the aggression, it will be isolated and not considered part of Europe. On his part, Acting U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger called the policy of Serbia a cancer in the heart of Europe. The speakers asked to further strengthen the trade embargo and other pressures to oblige Serbia to give up its policy of violence.

Stressing the seriousness of the conflict and the possibility that this conflict may be converted into an inter-Balkan one, the conference decided at the end to set up a permanent institution based in Geneva, in which all the parties in the conflict will participate and that will examine step by step the ways to solve this conflict.

Besides signing the statement, which includes the main principles to solve the conflict, this undoubtedly constitutes an important step that should be congratulated.

Meanwhile, the main participants at this conference did not consider appropriate the requests by some of the participants for a military intervention to solve this conflict.

Another important aspect of this meeting was that it forcefully presented the question of Albanians in the former Yugoslavia, and especially the Albanians in Kosovo. The participation of their legitimate representatives in the conference, though not with a direct status, constitutes a step forward compared to the two other conferences, giving the opportunity to make this question more known to the world diplomacy and international opinion.

In this conference, the Albanian delegation headed by Foreign Minister Serreqi forcefully defended the rights of the Albanian population in Kosovo by giving arguments on their right to self-determination. Other delegations were also concerned about the situation of the Albanian population in Kosovo and pointed out the Serbian oppression there and the need to pursue a preventive diplomacy and send observers, so that Kosovo should not be the next victim of the Serbian aggression, a situation that would bring unimaginable consequences for the whole region.

It is regrettable to say that even this conference treated the question of the Albanian population in Kosovo as a question of a minority requesting its autonomy. This was justified with the need to respect the principle of not changing the borders by force, something that, as the Albanian delegation explained, does not stand up, because according to the constitution of the former Yugoslavia, Kosovo has been its own constitutional unit.

Anyway, what should be greeted is the request of this conference to start talks between the Albanian representatives of Kosovo and those of Serbia with a third party as mediator to come to an acceptable solution. The conference is over. Only its decisions are left. Their fulfillment has a long way to go. With the former Yugoslavia, the AIDS [Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome] of Europe remains an open wound.

Navy Explains Visit by Russian Warship to Varna

AU2808132492 Sofia BTA in English 0803 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Varna, August 28 (BTA)—In connection with the visit of the Russian Warship "Aytodor" to the Port of Varna, conflicting reports about which have appeared in the Bulgarian press, the Command of the Navy of the Republic of Bulgaria gives the following explanations:

The "Aytodor" is a warship of the Russian Black Sea Fleet. It is a hydrographic ship and carries no weapons on board.

By mutual agreement with the Navy, the ship delivered spare parts for the Navy's hydrographic service station. It also carried cement for a private company.

The Navy did not clear and could not have cleared the unloading of the cement because this lies beyond its competence.

The ship was anchored in the roads on August 4, waiting for clearance to unload in the civilian port. The competent authorities issued a free practice protocol at 1730 hours on August 4. The commission which signed the protocol included representatives of the Customs Service, the State Shipping Inspectorate, the sea border checkpoint and the sanitary control authority.

On August 10 the Embassy of the Russian Federation sent a belated note to the Foreign Ministry, requesting permission for the unloading of the "Aytodor" in Varna. The cargo was included in the interregional exchange between Kuban and Bulgaria of the Vigmar Company which freighted the ship.

The ship went through the State Shipping Inspectorate control, entered the Port of Varna and started unloading.

Following a decision of the Council of Ministers, the ship was warned to leave Bulgarian territorial waters at 1030 hours on August 18. As it was still unloading, the ship left the Port of Varna and Bulgarian territorial waters on August 19. The ship's papers were in order and she has paid all dues.

The carriage of a civilian cargo by a warship sets a precedent in Bulgarian practice. The Navy Command called the attention of the command of the Russian Black Sea Fleet to the fact that warships should strictly observe Article 7 of the Sea Areas Act of the Republic of Bulgaria, whereby they should request clearance for entry in the internal maritime waters from the Council of Ministers by a note served according to the established procedure.

The State Shipping Inspectorate officials may not clear themselves of the responsibility for having cleared the unloading.

Reasons for Adviser Popov Dismissal Discussed

AU2808130692 Sofia BTA in English 1059 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Sofia, August 28 (BTA)—Zdravko Popov, the president's foreign policy advisor who was dismissed by a presidential decree two days ago, exceeded his authority when he held several meetings abroad, including one with the Lebanese prime minister, most dailies today quote the president's spokesman as saying on national radio yesterday.

According to other sources, information about Mr. Popov's contacts was furnished by Bulgarian intelligence officers and reported to the president by General Brigo Asparukhov, chief of the National Intelligence Service, in the prime minister's presence. Commenting on the issue, national radio asked whether Mr. Popov had anything to do with the adjournment of President Zhelev's visit to Israel.

The news blackout imposed on Mr. Popov's activity in the Middle East casts a shadow on democracy and the presidential institution, today's OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK comments. According to the paper, the discrediting of one top official at the President's Office serves certain political interests. "The undeclared war between the President's Office and the cabinet claimed yet another victim, which may make the two institutions reopen fierce fire on each other," OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK writes, urging more information on the case.

By Wednesday [26 August] noon Mr. Popov did not suspect that the president had signed his dismissal as early as Tuesday [25 August], writes 24 CHASA. According to the paper, Mr. Popov described the discrediting material as "unserious."

"There is no rivalry between President Zhelyu Zhelev and Prime Minister Filip Dimitrov, to say nothing of the institutions they represent," Mr. Konstantin Mishev, advisor to the prime minister, told BTA. He made this statement in connection with current talk of "a war" waged against the president.

"Moreover, the personal relations between Mr. Dimitrov and Mr. Zhelev are very good," Mr. Mishev said.

"The information about Mr. Popov's activity, which led to his dismissal, came through official channels," Mr. Mishev said. The prime minister personally reported the case to the president. "It is not true that Mr. Dimitrov learnt about Mr. Popov's visit to Lebanon from General Asparukhov," Mr. Mishev said.

Popov Admits Lebanon Visit

AU2808195792 Sofia BTA in English 1821 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Sofia, August 28 (BTA)—Mr. Zdravko Popov stated in an interview for Radio Free Europe this afternoon that he had paid a private visit to Lebanon without President Zhelyu Zhelev's knowledge. He was dismissed

by presidential decree from his post as foreign policy advisor to Dr. Zhelev two days ago.

Mr. Popov confirmed the fact that he had not informed the president in advance and that he, himself, had no intention of meeting with advisors to the Lebanese president and prime minister or the Lebanese prime minister himself.

Commenting on these meetings, Mr. Popov said the 15-minute talk with the Lebanese prime minister had focused on the relations between the two countries and their further development.

Mr. Popov categorically denied any contacts with the military industry complex or having had any talks concerning "arms" in Lebanon. Immediately after his dismissal was announced, Mr. Popov was reported to have met a well-known arms smuggler in Lebanon.

Mr. Popov protested against his name being linked with those of Mr. Dimitur Ludzhev (ex-defence minister) and Asen Michkovski (of the Podkrepa Labour Confederation lobby in parliament), members of parliament of the ruling coalition of the Union of Democratic Forces.

Problems of Incoming, Outgoing Migration Viewed

AU3108082092 Sofia OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK in Bulgarian 25 Aug 92 pp 1, 2

[OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK commentary: "Some Seek Their Homeland Abroad, Others Find It in Bulgaria"]

[Text] So far the government has failed to announce its strategy for solving the problems caused by the new "excursions" to Turkey and the arrivals of Bulgarians from the former Soviet republics.

Recently another migration of Bulgarian Turks who are seeking their homeland abroad has started. At the same time, Bulgarians from former Soviet republics are arriving in the regions affected by the process, especially Khaskovo and Kurdzhali. In Kurdzhali alone 66 newcomers, comprised of 41 adults and 25 children, were added to the population a month ago. Khaskovo already has 42 newly arrived Bulgarians from Dushanbe, the Tajik capital.

These facts raise serious issues. First, to what extent will the wave of "tourist" emigration develop? The people traveling to Turkey say: We have no work here; we have been left without land and property, and our relatives have settled down well in Turkey. However, official voices are heard from Turkey saying that the country does not want to accept so many immigrants. Possible restrictions have reportedly caused conflicts with those preparing to leave and have given rise to further tension, especially in the regions with a Turkish population. The situation becomes more alarming when one considers the explosive situation in the Balkans caused by the bloody "ethnic cleansing" in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Second, it has become clear that Bulgarians arriving from the former Soviet republics have come at the invitation of the Committee for Defense of National Interests. Bessarabian Bulgarians who have come to live in Kurdzhali say that officials of this committee helped them find housing and work.

Even in 1990 leaders of the Committee for Defense of National Interests declared at rallies that the Turks would be expelled and their places taken by Bulgarians from Bessarabia. Now, however, the migrants realize that someone wants to make use of their situation, and they are appealing to the local political forces demanding that no one should gain advantages from their human drama. On the other hand, an action is being organized in Kurdzhali and Khaskovo to enable all Bessarabian Bulgarians who want to do so, to return to Bulgaria. Invitations are being sent out to relatives and fellow villagers in Bessarabia. A hundred or so are expected to arrive from Dushanbe in response to invitations. According to unofficial sources at the Bulgarian Consulate in Odessa, there exists a list of several thousand families who want to return to Bulgaria. It is known that about 2.8 million Bulgarians live in Moldova and the southern regions of Ukraine who have not been assimilated.

There is nothing unnatural in an increase in the numbers of Bulgarians arriving in regions with a Turkish population in the future. Eyewitnesses report that no conflicts exist in the work teams in which Bessarabian Bulgarians and Turks work side by side. However, what if the immigrants come in hundreds of thousands, even if they are qualified specialists in most cases and can make a real contribution to the development of the local economy? At the moment, industrial enterprises in Kurdzhali are operating almost at one-third capacity, unemployment is becoming a chronic problem, and three thousand families are registered as being in extreme need. Representatives of the DPS-dominated local administration say that they have no money to solve these problems. In their view, legislation is needed to solve them. The process is an objective fact. Some will leave for Turkey, while others will take their places from Ukraine, Bessarabia, and Tajikistan.... Bulgarians scattered by Stalin's repressions and oppressed because of their origin also exist in other regions of the former Soviet Union. In many of the places where they live, bloody fighting is now going on, and it is quite natural that insecurity and mass impoverishment should make people seek their homeland in Bulgaria. The politicians are hardly likely to be able to stop them.

The president said that we have to make investments in the depopulated regions. Leading DPS figures, following the tradition of past years, again declare that the Turkish population in the Khaskovo, Kurdzhali, and Razgrad districts are being provoked by rumors and manipulated by politicians. If the government remains silent or has no strategy for these regions, Bulgaria may find itself facing new major difficulties.

Dogan Alleged To Acknowledge Ethnic Basis of DPS

AU3108083092 Sofia VECHERNI NOVINI in Bulgarian 25 Aug 92 p 1

[Commentary by "E.D.": "Well Done, Dogan Effendi!"]

[Text] "We are the largest Turkish party in the Balkans"—Ahmed Dogan made this statement in Istanbul, where he was visiting with a delegation from the Rights and Freedoms Movement [DPS]. The full text of the statement was: "Because we are the largest Turkish organization in the Balkans, we have a great responsibility regarding the events in Bosnia-Hercegovina, and we want to discuss these problems during this visit." Clearly, Mr. Dogan is not the only person worried about these problems. They worry everyone who professes humanistic ideas. Why, then, did Mr. Dogan say this? Was it to demonstrate the strength of his organization to our southern neighbor, while demonstrating complete unconcern over the fact that thereby he directly acknowledges the legitimacy of his party's ethnic basis that, however, is forbidden by the Bulgarian Constitution? It also seems that, despite the shrinking of the DPS electorate, his statement was dictated by the rules of the game of the Union of Democratic Forces [SDS], including the foreign policy field. I believe that both assertions contain more than a grain of truth.

Accordingly, Mr. Dogan considers that he is sufficiently strong to make such direct observations, even though he is aware of the statements made by the Air Force and Air Defense Commands of the Yugoslav forces to the effect that Bulgaria will be bombed together with other countries if it engages in any form of operations against Yugoslavia. It is well-known that the Hellenic Republic wants an open corridor above Bulgaria for its military units (for the moment, only paratroopers) to cross into Bosnia. Others want to use our airfields as bases for possible military intervention.

How will the government act? Will it say "pass" even now? It is a pity, but one must remember a sad truth: Politics at the national level is a difficult sport.

Dimitrov Concerned About Podkrepa Reply to Kirkland

AU2808180492 Sofia BTA in English 1731 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Sofia, August 28 (BTA)—The Bulgarian Government is greatly concerned about the systematic and open efforts by the leadership of the Podkrepa Union to engage in illegal and politically motivated strikes, occupations, blockades and other strong-armed tactics which no democratic government can tolerate in the long run, Prime Minister Filip Dimitrov writes in a letter today to the president of the American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), Mr. Lane Kirkland.

The premier's letter is in response to a letter he received from Mr. Lane Kirkland, published on August 5 in the PODKREPA daily. Mr. Dimitrov writes that some of the assertions in Mr. Kirkland's letter are so obviously untrue that he may have regrettably become the unwitting victim of misinformation. In his letter Mr. Filip Dimitrov says that there are two major assertions that he cannot but take exception to: that the Bulgarian Government had "proposed new restrictions" on the basic right of the workers to strike in defence of their legitimate economic interests, and that it had failed to provide "basic information" on the social and economic situation in Bulgaria to the unions.

In his letter the Bulgarian premier expresses the concern of the Bulgarian Government over the mounting evidence of large-scale corruption and fraudulent activities of the leadership of the Podkrepa Union. He writes that documentary evidence is being gathered revealing cases of the import and sale in this country of large amounts of goods under the cover of "donations" so that neither the customs duties nor the excise duties required by the law were paid, as well as numerous cases, which according to the law enforcement authorities, can be described as rackets. "Should Bulgarian justice determine that criminal wrongdoing took place in these and other cases, the full severity of the law will be applied to the guilty as in any other democratic, law-abiding country," Mr. Filip Dimitrov writes in his letter.

Strasky, Kovac React to Hungarian Letter on Border

AU3108120992 Prague CSTK in English 1922 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Prague Aug 28 (CSTK)—Czechoslovak Premier Jan Strasky today said if it were true that the completion of a part of the Czechoslovak-Hungarian twin-dam project on the Danube in Slovakia could change the border between Czechoslovakia and Hungary, final decision would be up to the International Court of Justice at the Hague.

"If Hungary's objection that a possible completion of the part of the project at Gabcikovo would cause a change in the Czechoslovak-Hungarian border is true, a speedy solution would be necessary", Strasky told CSTK in response to today's letter he received from Hungarian Premier Jozsef Antall.

"If that fails, the issue would have to be settled at the International Court of Justice", he said.

In the letter Antall proposed that the two sides turn to the International Court of Justice to solve the dispute over the completion of Gabcikovo. Antall says completing the construction would divert the Danube onto Slovak territory and thus Hungary's territorial integrity would be jeopardised.

Strasky stressed that at any rate it is necessary to make yet another attempt to settle the issue of the borders directly with Hungary.

Under a 1977 agreement, the two countries began work on the project in 1978 but in 1989 Hungary stopped work on its part at Nagymaros, several dozen kilometres downstream from Gabcikovo, for environmental reasons. Czechoslovakia went ahead with completing Gabcikovo, saying it would lose more if it left the project unfinished.

In an interview with the Slovak news agency TKSR, Slovak Deputy Premier Roman Kovac said that the planned visit by Slovak Premier Vladimir Meciar to Budapest, Hungary, on September 9 and his talks with Hungarian Premier Jozsef Antall could help clarify the dispute over the hydroelectric project on the Danube. In that case the dispute would not have to be eventually decided by the International Court of Justice at the Hague, said Kovac in reference to Antall's letter today sent to Federal Premier Jan Strasky.

Asked about a course of action in case the Hungarian side considered the completion of the Gabcikovo dam on Czechoslovak territory a threat to its territorial integrity, Kovac said it would be possible to resolve the problem by political talks also in that case.

Red Cross Charged With Aiding FRY Refugees

LD2808163292 Prague CSTK in English 1202 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Prague Aug. 28 (CSTK)—The director of the Czechoslovak Red Cross Federal Committee, Milos Laznicka, told journalists today that the organisation has been charged with taking care of refugees from former Yugoslavia who only pass through Czechoslovakia.

Milos Laznicka noted that the Czechoslovak Government earmarked a total of 2.7 million crowns [korunas] (about 100,000 USD [U.S. dollars]) for this purpose.

He said a majority of refugees from former Yugoslavia coming to Czechoslovakia do not want to stay here but intend to seek asylum in other countries, mostly in Germany.

Since Czechoslovakia has a visa-free travel agreement with Yugoslavia, these people may stay in Czechoslovakia as tourists for 30 days and then they must be granted either the status of refugee or temporary refuge. In both cases they may stay in refugee camps on Czechoslovak territories, Laznicka said.

He added, however, that most of these people are afraid of refugee camps, due to the poor experience from their own country, and refuse any assistance. They gather at Czechoslovak border crossings and wait for an opportunity to cross the border to Germany. About 70 people now live at the Rozvadov border crossing (west Bohemia) in this way, Laznicka said.

Speech by Slovak Council Chairman on Constitution

LD3008185792 Bratislava Slovak 1 Television Network in Slovak 1720 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Television address by Slovak National Council Chairman Ivan Gasparovic—live or recorded]

[Text] Esteemed and dear fellow citizens, I asked the management of Slovak Television for an opportunity to address you on the eve of what is, no doubt, an historic day, as the Slovak National Council is going to discuss the draft constitution of the Slovak Republic.

The entire Slovak community—regardless of nationality, creed, social origin, or political affiliation—has lived for several months now—if I take into account the election, and above all the discussion about the government bill on the constitution—in a state of tension and anxiety as well as hope for a better future. The day in question will enter the history of the Slovak nation and other fellow citizens as the day of true Slovak statehood.

The draft constitution of the Slovak Republic outlines the direction of democratic development and progress in all spheres of our people's life. We also want to do everything necessary in the Slovak National Council

bodies in order to make it a constitutional document that will stand up to objective, politically unbiased criticism.

What matters to us is that the constitution lay down all the principles that have been gradually formed by human civilization as the basis of freedom, democracy, development and protection of human beings, and dignified status for citizens. We are well aware that this is the only political, spiritual, and cultural system capable of respecting freedom of creed, thought, activities, scientific research, entrepreneurship, personal responsibility, and normal relations between human beings; it is the one that will create constitutional and institutional guarantees for eliminating abuse of power, breach of laws, abuse of authority, cheating, trickery, and getting rich through dishonest means at the expense of others.

This is the main purpose of the constitution as the fundamental law, the law of laws.

I should be glad, esteemed viewers, if you understand the legislative process for discussion of the draft constitution as a search for legal guarantees for you, in the interest of everybody.

Certain comments, and the fact that they are being blown out of proportion for political reasons, should not make you pessimistic. It is a good thing when political parties and movements, their representatives and clubs strive to achieve a good-quality constitution. Dozens, and even as we heard, hundreds of comments can perhaps give the impression that it is necessary to amend the original draft. I should like to assure you that above all, the Constitutional and Legal Committee of the Slovak National Council discussed every single comment, assessing its sense, purpose, and function. It has become clear that many comments are repeated, and are problematic from legal, stylistic, and terminological points of view. Not everything put forward as a comment is an improvement. Many of them are aimed—either with purpose or because of lack of knowledge—at achieving the very opposite.

I should like, however, to thank all deputies and yourselves, esteemed fellow citizens, for the stances, recommendations, and proposals that have contributed to improvement of the text.

We have received many letters and I should like to thank you for all of them. We have been unable to accommodate all proposals, however. They were aimed at a different concept of the constitution. There were quite a few proposals that did not belong in a constitution as the supreme law at all. Rather, they related to the level of ordinary laws or even lesser regulations.

It is not even possible to list the main points of departure and principles of the draft constitution in a short speech. Allow me to recall, at least, that the draft defines the Slovak Republic as a sovereign, democratic, and lawful state headed by the president of the republic. We follow the principle of a parliamentary republic in which the legislative, executive, and judicial powers are mtually interrelated. There is also the new element of the institution of the president of the Republic.

We think it stands to reason that a sovereign state should have an individual head of state. The parliament, as the bearer of the legislative power, and the government and the president, as representatives of the executive power, find themselves, in a completely new manner, in a situation in which the Constitutional Court will compare their initiatives with the constitution and other laws.

Some comments were directed at the length of the constitution. It is indeed true that the draft is lengthy. One of the chief reasons is that the whole charter of human rights and freedoms has been actually included in the constitution. In comparison with, for instance, the U.S. Constitution, our draft is very detailed indeed.

There have been contrary comments, too. They criticized certain blank areas. They demanded that details be included that are out of place even in the code of law. After all, it is not possible to constrict the life of an individual and society within details, albeit by an overriding, supreme legal norm.

I want to express the belief that the work carried out on the draft constitution thus far will bring its fruit in the lives of our people. Such principles as democracy, humanism, and cooperation with other democratic countries; the unity of national, civil, and international interests; and cooperation and good relations of all citizens regardless of nationality, creed, and other criteria are a guarantee for the gradual healthy unification of our fellow citizens in the interest of a peaceful life and a spiritual revival based on the principles of tolerance, understanding, and love.

The draft constitution will be discussed after the Thursday [as heard] talks between the political representations of the Civic Democratic Party and the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia. I believe that all of us who followed the course of the talks accepted with relief the news of yet another positive step on the road to understanding between our two nations and republics. By adopting the constitution of the Slovak Republic, we do not aim at cutting relations with our closest neighbor. We are resolved to continue to cooperate and to live in good relations with the Czech Republic, without administrative, customs, passport, or other limitations. We will try to achieve a new quality of relations in the economy, in politics, and in the civil, international, defense, and currency fields. We are in favor of understanding and agreement.

Esteemed viewers, I should like to assure you that together with the deputies of the Slovak National Council, we will do everything necessary in the interest of adopting a constitution that will honor not only the legislative body, but also our culture, our moral standards, and the interest in cooperation with the Czech Republic and with other countries. Let the document that is going to be born out of the reason, goodwill, and feeling of our deputies serve our nation and the members

of the ethnic minorities and ethnic groups. But let it also serve everybody who comes to our country with good intentions.

Esteemed television viewers, may I, in conclusion, greet all those for whom September is linked with going to school. I wish pupils of all types of schools—state, private, and church—and, of course, university students plenty of zest, endurance, and persistence.

Dear young people, the dynamic changes of our society demand, apart from other things, a higher degree of independence in education, creativity in thinking, and flexibility in adapting to new, more demanding circumstances. I hope that you will grow into noble people, well-educated and well-versed professionals who will actively take part in the solution of many current and future problems of our beautiful homeland, the Slovak Republic. I hope that you will all retain belief in the future. Thank you very much.

Meciar: SDL Stand on Constitution 'Obstructive'

LD2808191392 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Slovak 1700 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] There was an unexpected development at around 1800 this evening at a meeting of the constitutional and legal committee of the Slovak National Council. Jan Balascak has the details.

There was a discussion of whether it will be possible for the Slovak issuing bank to begin its activities and whether the Slovak Republic can become a customs territory immediately following adoption of the new constitution. In connection with this, a serious dispute arose between Deputy Lubomir Fogas of the Democratic Left Party [SDL] and Slovak National Council Chairman Ivan Gasparovic. While SDL representatives pointed out that the prepared measures would contradict existing federal legislation, representatives of the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia claimed that without the adoption of their proposals, it would not be possible to sign an agreement on a customs and currency union with the Czechs by 1 January 1993.

Roman Kovac, deputy chairman of the Slovak Government, said in this context that if the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia's proposals were not accepted, the government would withdraw the draft constitution from the agenda of the Slovak National Council meeting to take place on 31 August.

The entire dispute came to a head when Prime Minister Vladimir Meciar arrived. He stated that a failure to sign the agreement on a customs union with the Czechs would cause a disruption of the Slovak economy. At the same time, he bluntly accused the SDL of maintaining a two-faced policy and described their attitude to the constitution as obstructive since they were making its adoption impossible. He also pointed out to the deputies that such an approach is not a game of political vanity, but a game involving the destiny of the people of Slovakia.

Meciar then unambiguously said that, unless the issue is solved, his government will withdraw the discussion of the draft constitution from the 31 August agenda.

[Prague CSTK in English at 2041 GMT on 28 August, in a similar report, adds: "After the debate the committee recommended the draft constitution for approval by the Slovak parliament."]

SDL Leader Responds to Meciar on Constitution

LD2908104692 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 27 Aug 92

[Excerpt] In the noon Radio Journal yesterday we broadcasted an interview with Premier Vladimir Meciar that my colleagues recorded after the 25 August session of the Slovak Government. The interview did not remain unanswered. Peter Weiss, chairman of the Democratic Left Party [SDL], requested an opportunity to respond to some words of Vladimir Meciar, who said, among other things, that the SDL, through its resolution, announced a willingness to talk. If, however, it does not get support, it will be against the constitution.

My first question, therefore, concerned the SDL policy if there is a vote on the Constitution.

[Begin recording] At its session, the SDL Executive Committee recommended that the deputies' club consult with other deputies' clubs on those problems that the deputies have discussed many times—these are mainly relations between the legislative and executive powers and the concluding and temporary stipulations in the constitution—in an effort to solve the problems. If the other parliamentary politicians do not show an interest in achieving political agreement aimed at improving the quality of the constitution, the Executive Committee recommended that the SDL deputies' club in the Slovak National Council not support the draft constitution in the form in which it was submitted by the government.

Thus, we did not say that we do not want to support the Slovak Republic constitution or that we want to vote against it. The quality of the constitution is a basic question. The government used its right of legislative initiative and submitted a draft, even following an agreement with the SDL, which had 357 comments. Even if we can ignore some of them and say that they are merely stylistic, they would not have been necessary if the draft had been better prepared.

There were two kinds of comment—those of experts—concerning mainly a balance between executive and legislative power. Our experts—that is, not only Dr. Fogas, but also a group of lawyers who are backing him—came to the conclusion that it would not be much good if the government has too much power concentrated in its hands and if there is an accumulation of

certain rights—for example, the right to return laws—on behalf of the president and the prime minister.

There was no willingness to receive these comments up to a certain date, although experts from various groupings came to similar conclusions. This group of comments, after the deliberations of experts, could be illuminated in some way so that the political regime which this constitution will establish might be a regime respecting the fact that this is a parliamentary democracy.

The second group of comments concerned definitive and provisional stipulations. The motive for these comments was to prevent a situation of legal chaos and the possibility of various interpretations of certain stipulations of the Slovak Constituton after it comes into power.

One cannot agree with the fact that these were some kind of poisonous political remarks. For our part, from the very beginning , there was a very proper and intensive cooperation on this constitution. After all, even if the constitution is being submitted by the Government of the Slovak Republic, it is not a constitution of the Slovak Government, it is not a constitution for this Slovak government either. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Slovak Economists Propose Currency Reform Ratios

AU3108092192 Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech 24 Aug 92 pp 1, 8

[Ivan Hoffman report: "The Other Side of Independence"]

[Text] The report on the official business trip by Hvezdon Koctuch (Movement for a Democratic Slovakia [HZDS]) has become a bestseller in Slovakia. The leading representative of the Independent Association of Slovak Economists—and chairman of the Slovak National Council National Economy Committee, after the elections—paid a week-long visit to Washington with several of his colleagues from 18 July to 26 July. He spoke with representatives of the IMF, the World Bank, the State Department, the Treasury, and the U.S. Congress in an effort to explore their stance on the future existence of states on the territory of the existing CSFR. According to the report, the objective of his trip was to "make Slovakia more visible."

SMENA, which carried this report in installments, decided to entitle it "What Did Slovak Experts Ascertain in America," and added a bold-letter subtitle to it: "Pros and Cons of Independence." It has become apparent from some parts of the report that the new Slovak representatives woke up from their dreams in Washington.

They learned that the "general condition for the transition of the Slovak economy to market conditions is macroeconomic stability," which the IMF, for example, describes as the following steps: denationalization; price liberalization; the introduction of tough budgetary measures; the abolition of grants, subsidies, and automatic bank credits to cover losses; instruments to reduce overemployment; ending the monopoly of state-owned enterprises; privatization; establishment of a competitive banking system; obligation of the state bank to keep inflation under control; reform of the tax system; allowing direct foreign investments in the domestic economy; etc.

From the supplement to the report (for the time being intended only for Slovak National Council deputies), HZDS voters can read in the sequel that "in almost every discussion there were signs of fear that the Slovak Government would implement deficit financing when the CSFR split," and that "the most important source of savings in the state budget is social policy." Arms factory employees will not miss Koctuch's statement that "to continue arms production—even in a limited scope—would mean the international isolation of Slovakia."

The following statement is also interesting: "We must tell the Slovak Republic's citizens in no uncertain terms that the economic price for independence is high, and that we must count on yet another decline in the standard of living for the next 3 to 5 years." What will this decline look like when the currency is divided? A passage on currency reform reads: "Within the process of establishing two monetary systems (of the Czech and the Slovak koruna), it would be worth considering monetary reform. The basis would be revaluing the currency unit at a ratio of 1:10 and adjusting the price level at a ratio of 1:9. This measure would bring money reserves of 10 percent (this applies not only to the money in circulation itself). By this, good starting conditions would be created to curb expected inflationary pressures. We suggest that these steps be taken prior to the passage of the Slovak constitution and the election of the Slovak president. From the social point of view, this would make it easier to pass this monetary step."

Some Slovak reporters are describing Hvezdon Koctuch's report as a surprising transformation of the HZDS into a rightist party and they are pointing out the discrepancy between these statements and the HZDS election program and the Slovak Government policy statement.

Koctuch Comments on Report

LD2708141792 Bratislava Rozhlasova Stanica Slovensko Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 26 Aug 92

[Interview with Hvezdon Koctuch, chairman of the Slovak National Council National Economy and Budget Committee, by correspondent Milan Velecky; date and place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Velecky] Mr. Koctuch, the report on the business trip to the United States says, among other things, that the economic price of Slovakia's independence is going to be high and that one should reckon with

a drop in the standard of living for another three to five years. Do you agree with this statement?

[Koctuch] We will try to stop the fall in the Slovak economy by 30 June 1993. We would like to launch the so-called point-based stimulation within another year. This is a prediction of a certain interval, which is based largely on the lack of a bank infrastructure and on the functions performed by the banks in our country thus far. Hence, I do agree, within this time period that is being assessed, that the assessment approaches the pessimistic pole of opinion.

[Velecky] The Slovak Republic's state budget for the next year will become an important issue in the future development of Slovakia's economy. The report says, among other things, that the partners from the IMF and World Bank are afraid that a deficit state budget will be created.

[Koctuch] The experts from the IMF and from the World Bank are wise enough to notice that our budget is already a deficit budget. Some of the items that are part of the budget were not expressed in it. Hence, the fictitious idea of a balanced budget was really only a fiction at the time when the budget was being approved. There is no fixed pattern saying that the national economy must be run without a deficit, since that would not be specific enough. The IMF acknowledges deficit financing at a time when the deficit is being used as an investment, when it lays the foundations of new focal points for possible growth and lays foundations for stimulation of the economy. But, as I say, the acceptable limit is roughly 5 percent of the gross national product. We said this and they acknowledged that.

[Velecky] The partners from the World Bank consider social policy to be the most important source of savings from the state budget. Many consider your visit to the United States as leaning toward right-wing policy. Should one understand it this way?

[Koctuch] No, not at all. In our practical work, a policy was adopted saying—we have not got a bean, we do not have enough investments, we do not have enough budget resources for all the necessary areas, e.g. for health services, and so, we try to reduce means for everybody and also to give everybody the necessary grain of salt. But that is the most laughable policy.

In a situation where one has little money and few financial resources, one has to choose priorities that one can totally saturate, and then get off the ground relying on them. That was our policy [as heard]. Hence, the IMF did not criticize and did not say anything to the effect that it was necessary to reduce social expenditures. The IMF only pointed out the technology, reminding us of the fact that it was difficult to be stingy with regard to these expenditures, although an enormous amount could be saved through proper selection. [passage omitted]

[Velecky] The report goes on to speak about the creation of two currencies, the Czech and Slovak koruna, with the currency unit ratio being 1:10 and the adjustment of price level at approximately 1:9. How would that affect the citizens of the Slovak Republic?

[Koctuch] I do not think the citizens would for that in any way. We are of the opinion that this step toward making the currency unit, the Slovak koruna, strong, with one koruna being as strong as 10 Czechoslovak korunas today, would be a very reasonable solution. As for prices, that is also a selection-based solution. It would not concern everything. We really accept this, but this is only one part of the interval, the pessimistic part of the interval.

Bank Official Dismisses Report

AU3108134492 Bratislava NARODNA OBRODA in Slovak 26 Aug 92 p 2

["ZV"-signed report: "Unnecessary Agitation"]

[Text] Yesterday, the SMENA daily published under the headline "Pros and Cons of Independence (What Did Slovak Experts Ascertain in America)," a trip report on the visit of a group of Slovak experts to the United States that was, according to SMENA, prepared by Vladislav Bachar, director general of the Devin Bank, and J. Kollar, head of the Ludova [People's] Bank. It includes a passage on conceivable currency reform in the event that two separate currency circulations were introduced.

This passage spurred immediate response from the public, including our readers. Moreover, the 24 August Czechoslovak Television news program "Events and Commentaries" proclaimed Hvezdon Koctuch, chairman of the Slovak National Council National Economy and Budget Committee, to be the author of the report.

According to Vladislav Bachar, director general of the Devin Bank, the general report was prepared by the members of the expert group. They also consulted on each part with Mr. Koctuch. Nevertheless, it is just a working draft that considers feasible alternative solutions in various economic spheres. It is a working draft for the use of Slovak National Council deputies who have not yet received their copies, however. Therefore, the source of the leak can only be surmised. The fact is that only the members of the Slovak National Council Presidium have obtained this material. Furthermore, as published, the report is incomplete and thus, disinformative. One should consider—as Mr. Bachar said—to whom and what purpose such a leak could benefit.

Regarding the currency reform—it certainly is not an actual proposal. Again, we are talking about ideas and one possibility of dealing with the currency issue.

Federal Official Refutes Idea

LD3108124692 Prague Stanice Ceskoslovensko Radio Network in Slovak 1000 GMT 31 Aug 92

[Text] In the context of the debate on the future relationship between the Czech and Slovak Republics, views are

being expressed in both republics about the currency arrangement. During the talks between the delegations of the Civic Democratic Party [ODS] and the Movement for a Democratic Slovakia [HZDS] it was said quite clearly that the most realistic solution is a common currency—at least, in the first period after the division of the Czechoslovak Federation. Other views, however, suggested that in one or the other republic, it will be necessary to carry out a currency reform. Deputy Federal Premier Rudolf Filkus responded especially to one recently expressed view that the Slovak koruna should be revalued by a ratio of 1:10 and prices by a ratio of 1:9.

[Begin Filkus recording] The ratio is no longer the issue, but I consider it economically unfounded. Second, to announce such views to the citizens and thus imply that citizens should prepare for a currency reform—I consider this to be intolerable from the political point of view and I could also say that this is not very responsible.

Look, it is economically unfounded to consider a currency reform now when we have managed to solve all the overhanging issues that we had on the side of demand by the process of price liberalization, by the process of a restrictive macroeconomic policy over currency and budget and then to solve the issue of currency reform by a certain ratio, say 1:10 for the koruna and 1:9 for prices and wages. Well, how come? In the process and conditions of price liberalization, we cannot say that all prices will change by a ratio of 1:9. That is nonsense from the point of view of market relations. We could say this when we managed the prices through a command economy, but not in these conditions. [end recording]

Assembly Chairman Explains Origin of Union Treaty

AU2908185692 Prague CSTK in English 1647 GMT 23 Aug 92

[Text] Ruzomberok Aug 23 (CSTK)—"Issues concerning the termination of the Czechoslovak federation and declarations of sovereignty by the Czech and Slovak Republics should be settled by the end of this year, Michal Kovac of the [Movement for a Democratic Slovakia] HZDS told CSTK today. [no closing quotation mark as received]

But, Kovac, the chairman of the Federal Assembly, added: "That doesn't mean that all of the problems connected with (these issues) will be solved by that time." One example he cited was the dividing up of federal property, which might not be settled until 1993 or 1994.

One month ago today the Czech ODS [Civic Democratic Party] and the Slovak HZDS, each of them the top vote-getter in their own republic in June elections, closed a "political agreement" under which both parties pledged to pursue the adoption of legislation terminating the federation by September 30. According to Kovac, it will not be possible to meet many of the deadlines set for the liquidation of federal bodies in the July 23 agreement.

He said the HZDS proposal for a Czecho-Slovak union, made public on Friday [21 August], was prepared by the Slovak Government at the request of a working commission of the Slovak parliament. However, the HZDS will not submit the document at their August 27 talks with the ODS as it is still in the working stages and is not yet official.

Asked what he thought of the proposal's article stating that the treaty or pact forming the union would take precedence over the constitutions of the two republics, Kovac replied: "Anything of the sort is a nonsense."

Opposition Faults Government, Cites Antall Illness

92CH0883A Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 24 Aug 92 p 5

[Unattributed article: "A Few Thoughts—From Csurka"]

[Text] We present a few important statements from Istvan Csurka's study published in the 20 August issue of MAGYAR FORUM. The writing is entitled "A Few Thoughts Concerning the Two Years Since the System Change and the New Program of the MDF [Hungarian Democratic Forum]."

At the beginning of the study the MDF vice president sharply criticizes the parliament and the government. "Society dismisses the great institutions by now, the National Assembly, the Constitutional Court, and the political parties, of course.... A tragic lack of authority exists in this country. But there will be no authority as long as this government governs with improvised makeshift actions." The politician goes on to say that society expects more firmness from the independent Hungarian Government: "It should do what it has been empowered to do."

The author of the study regards the so-called pact between the MDF and the SZDSZ [Alliance of Free Democrats] as the "most critical element" in the course of the system change and as the "most controversial improvisation." In Csurka's view, one of the main reasons for the MDF's 1990 election victory was that it had the courage to point out the Bolshevik roots of the SZDSZ leadership, and that it raised a suspicion that subsequently proved to be justified, i.e., that behind the vociferous anticommunist fervor lurks an effort to salvage the left-wing *nomenklatura*. Csurka claims that prior to the elections it had become apparent that in reality two factions have been wrestling with each other: the national center and the "left-wing bloc that... in the final analysis, wanted to continue the rule that had existed ever since 1945. This includes ensuring continued influence by the Jewry of course, but, most importantly, the preservation of financial positions and the perpetuation of power."

The MDF was forced to agree to the pact because the government found itself in a financially bankrupt situation, according to the author of the article: "The volume of deposits at the Hungarian National Bank dropped to half the previous volume in the course of a week" when Antall revealed that he would leave out the SZDSZ and FIDESZ [Federation of Young Democrats] from the coalition. The writer of "A Few Thoughts" believes that certain forces he refers to as the "left-wing bloc" extorted the money "in order to maintain a ruling position that has continuously existed since 1945 and to slow down the system change." The fatal consequence of this is that the "Arpad Goncz, controlled by the hard core of the SZDSZ, became the president of the Republic," according to Csurka.

In his further remarks Csurka charges the president of the Republic with having committed a series of transgressions insofar as his authority as president was concerned, because "he was ordered to do so by those who stand behind him: the communist, reform-communist, liberal, and radical members of the *nomenklatura*, and the go-betweens with Paris, New York, and Tel Aviv...." According to Csurka, "An unbridled terror is beginning at the newspapers, at the television and in every place where admitting to being Hungarian could be a factor in their functioning" [as published].

The study also reveals that the MDF has suffered a severe loss of authority; the electorate is emotionally distancing itself from an "MDF that keeps making promises and keeps breaking them, and from a weak government that could be viewed as ridiculous."

There is only one solution by which the life and death issues of the Hungarian people can be resolved: "We must break out," Csurka demands. The MDF poses this question to the government: Can it, is it capable of making a firm change now, about halfway through its term of office? There is no room for "crookedness" involving any kind of consensus; the idea of a consensus should not even occur to anyone. The essence of the Csurka economic policy program is a Hungarian economic policy based on the people and the nation. He proposes to file lawsuits on grounds of economic crimes against only a few hundred people, strictly on the basis of legality. At the same time, however, it is necessary to smoke out from every apparatus "the background forces engaged in sabotage." "The illegally appointed superintendents" of the radio and television "and their hangers-on must be removed, with the help of the police force, if necessary, and any administrative action or any use of force becomes permissible if the president of the Republic continues to resist, if he continues to walk the path of illegality.... One cannot pursue political discourse without the show of force ... the ever more disgusted young people are going to stand on our side if we are able to give bread to the new blood, if we can give them the places of aged Bolsheviks outside the parties, if we dare to appoint them as professors, to the lecterns...." "Placing education and upbringing on Hungarian foundations must be a pivotal thesis of the MDF. The contaminated nihilists of the old system must not have a say in creating the Hungarian future," the writer of the "Thoughts" demands.... "A new numbering system should be introduced (the numbering of membership booklets is at issue—Ed.). Those who agree to cooperate with us now, and agree to take risks and to make sacrifices, are of greatest value to us today."

In the final segment of the study the author reiterates not only his general critique of the government—stressing that the MDF "cannot accept that the government consistently caves in, retreats, bargains with the media,

and makes mistakes—but also personally attacks the prime minister for his dilatory politics. As much as the MDF deserved to be hailed for its winning ticket in the 1990 elections, it is now in the danger of being pushed into a chaotic situation as a result of his illness. Considering the kind of base people—communists!—we must stare down, it is inconceivable that they would not use his illness against us...." Relative to this matter the MDF vice president expressed his belief that he [Antall] can have no other task than that of taking part in the selection and training of a successor. "This action must not be delayed." In conclusion, Csurka called the government a failed government. The government has performed the most difficult tasks but has been "consumed" in the process. It had to be this way, perhaps. But even if the government has been lost, the party must not be lost, Csurka says, because "the MDF is the most characteristic Hungarian formation of this century."

Prime Minister Given Clean Bill of Health

LD3108104492 Budapest MTI in English 0737 GMT 31 Aug 92

[Text] Budapest, August 30 (MTI)—Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall, the president of the Hungarian Democratic Forum [HDF], will, according to his doctors, enjoy good health for years and can serve as an active politician for a long time, it was reported at the session of the Hungarian Democratic Forum's board, held in Cegled over the weekend.

A long and heated autumn is expected in Hungarian political life, said Agoston Szekelyhidi, member of the HDF board, at a press conference held following the conference. HDF President Antall also participated in the work of the closed session.

Discussions were held about the study published by HDF Vice-President Istvan Csurka in the August 21 issue of the weekly MAGYAR FORUM. In this, Csurka sharply criticized the party's policy, and raised that Antall cannot see to his tasks as prime minister due to his illness, and should designate his successor.

The remarks about Antall's health and successor were withdrawn during the week by Csurka, who apologized to the prime minister. The debate about the Csurka study did not lead to a break in the party, contrary to the expectation of many people. The study helped to speed up the creation of the HDF's long-term political strategy.

Economic issues were also discussed at the session. According to the evaluation of representatives from the ministries concerned, the economic processes are favourable, with the exception of the budget deficit. Indication of this is that foreign capital valued at USD 1 billion is expected to be invested in the country, inflation is to slow down, and savings of the population are increasing. The budget deficit is, among others, caused by the growing amounts paid as unemployment aid, while the income-like tax revenues are rather modest for the time being. Taking everything into consideration, there is a good chance for a boom in economy to begin in 1993.

Zolcsak Compares Transylvanian Hungarians to Jews

AU2908160192 Budapest MAGYAR NEMZET in Hungarian 24 Aug 92 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Istvan Zolcsak: Romania Is Waging an Ethnic War Against the Hungarians"]

[Text] Istvan Zolcsak, co-chairman of the Transylvania World Association, started his opening speech [at the congress of the organization] with the following: We are organizing this conference in Budapest because, through the means of terror and administrative measures, the Romanian Government and the chauvinistic anti-Hungarian attitude in Transylvania prevent the Transylvanian Hungarians from expressing their free will and their elected representatives are intimidated or obliterated. In the past four decades, the situation of the Transylvanian Hungarians has further deteriorated, and the fact that the other national minorities in Romania have a similar situation is no comfort for us. The Romanian governments wiped out the Jews of Romania with such efficiency that only 20,000-25,000 Jews remain today from the original 1 million, Istvan Zolcsak continued. During and after World War II, Jews were either killed with the utmost cruelty or forced—through administrative measures and terror—to flee after being robbed of all possessions.

Romania is waging a continuing ethnic war against Hungarian people. If we do not expose this then Romania, through the masses of refugees and the ensuing unemployment, will destabilize Hungary and break the moral and biological backbone of the Hungarian nation. Therefore, here and now, in a congressional decree, we must ask the Hungarian Government and parliament to urgently organize the self-defense of Hungarian people. We ask the Hungarian society, the Hungarian political parties, and the Hungarian emigration that is capable of fulfilling extremely important diplomatic tasks, to support this work. Let us not forget that the Hungarian emigration is the strongest where it is needed most.

Self-defense has its possibilities, in spite of the fact that the Hungarian people, similarly to the Kurds, were divided up by their neighbors, Istvan Zolcsak continued. We have a demoralized Hungary brainwashed by the inhibitions of Trianon, which has to be put back on its feet, and we have a functioning democratic Hungarian Government and parliament. We might be in a better position than the Kurds or Romanian Jews in 1940. At the moment, the number of Transylvanian and Moldovan Hungarians in Romania is between 2.5 and 3 million, and some 1.5 million Transylvanian Hungarians

and their descendants are living in Hungary. The Transylvanian and Moldovan Hungarians—altogether 4-4.5 million people—amount to a country's population, who are living deprived of their right of national self-determination although this is a natural and inalienable right of all peoples.

We cannot watch with acquiescence as Romania expels the Hungarians—similarly to the Jews and the Germans—from their ancient home, Transylvania. We cannot be silent, either, if a volley of abuses is thrown against us because of this—we are used to this. According to the Bucharest organization of Vatra Romaneasca, we who gathered here are "Hungarist circles inciting for revisionist, chauvinistic, and deeply anti-Romanian acts." I would like to emphasize that we are not inciting anyone and we are not anti-Romanian. All we are doing is fighting against mental blindness in a decent and sober voice. All that we are asking and demanding is what is due for every nation. We cannot be silent because it would be as if someone was being robbed—in addition to his past and present, even his future is about to be taken away—and the victim and his supporters were told to be silent. They should not shout because that would disturb and irritate the attacker.

We cannot remain silent and allow ourselves to be intimidated because we must remember the astonishing similarity between anti-Jew and anti-Hungarian attitudes in Romania and its consequences, Istvan Zolcsak said to end his opening speech. We must see how blind, unscrupulous, unsympathetic, and powerless the Hungarian and European media, and the official politics were at the time of the murder of 6 million Jews. The Hungarians are in a similar situation today and we are also left to fend for ourselves. Defense against the ethnic war of modern times that is threatening our existence is our natural and inalienable right.

Surjan Remains CDPP President, Welfare Minister

LD3008210792 Budapest MTI in English 1750 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Budapest, August 30 (MTI)—Laszlo Surjan will continue to be the president of the Christian Democratic People's Party (CDPP), and will also continue on as minister of welfare, CDPP leaders announced on Sunday [30 August], following a two-day session of the party's National Executive Committee, held in Szombathely (w. Hungary).

During the week, there were surmises in the Hungarian press that the party would call back Surjan from his post as minister. This would have implied a declaration that the CDPP, a member of government coalition, is distancing itself from the Hungarian Democratic Forum.

The statement issued on the conference notes the CDPP is a centre-party which is open towards all parties that operate amidst constitutional frameworks and meet the democratic demands. All the same, the CDPP will enter the 1994 parliamentary elections independently.

Alongside the acceptance of responsibility by the government, the CDPP considers it essential to more powerfully enforce its programme. Taking this into consideration, it even accepts the role of opposition within the government.

It calls for immediately beginning a change in the economic policy's direction, as the social tensions that have come about in the wake of the economic policy carried out to date are by today unacceptable for the wide masses of society.

The party demands an improvement in the situation of the strata struggling with the greatest difficulties: The pensioners, families with children, wage and salary earners, and the unemployed. It also calls for the approval of a comprehensive social law.

Laszlo Surjan said he considers the launching of public service work, and infrastructural investments with state support to be necessary in the interest of effectively handling unemployment.

Economists Report Pace of Recession Slowing

LD2808162892 Budapest MTI in English 0836 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Budapest, August 28 (MTI)—Recession in the Hungarian economy is continuing, but its pace is slowing down in certain areas, and several signs indicate the decline in production will stop in 1993, giving way to growth—these are the conclusions drawn by observers from the recently published data for the first five months of 1992.

Industrial production, which accounts for 30 per cent of the national economic output, lags behind the level in the corresponding period of 1991 by 18.4 per cent.

Production declined by 26 per cent between 1988 and 1991, with the crisis branches—engineering, industry, metallurgy, construction and building material industry—being the hardest hit. The current production level of these branches is 35-40 per cent of that in 1988.

The decline is the smallest in food and the electrical energy industry, in which branches the production level is around two-thirds of the 1988 level.

The total value of agricultural products merely fluctuated over the past five years, and declined by 3 per cent in 1991. GNP [gross national product] declined by a seventh over the past two years, and a small decline is reckoned for 1992 as well.

Marketing figures also indicate a steady decline. Sales of industrial goods dropped by 14 per cent in one year: by 15.7 per cent domestically, and 7.4 per cent abroad. Waning domestic demand mainly hit industrial ventures dealing in iron and steel transportation, and metal and

mass goods. Domestic sales of shoes and textiles and clothing also dropped dramatically. Turnover of agricultural goods declined by 22 per cent over one year.

The reason for the decline can be found in the employment figures. As compared to 1990, there were 34 per cent fewer workers in the material branches at the end of May, 1992. The number of unemployed at the end of the first six months in 1992 rose to 547,000, which is more than 10 per cent of people of working age. Forecasts predict at least 700,000 unemployed by the end of the year, and around 900,000 in 1993.

At comparative prices, retail trade sales were 13 per cent less than in the corresponding period of 1991, with the value of sales declining by 14.8 per cent. The decline in catering was modest. Consumer prices rose by 11.1 per cent, which is half the growth recorded in the corresponding period of 1991.

The growth of people's incomes lags behind the rate of inflation by 3 per cent which, together with the 15 per cent decline over the previous two years, means that net earnings fell by 18 per cent.

Due to a strict monetary policy, the domestic stock of loans dropped by 37 per cent over the past four years, and within this, the real value of the stock of investment and entrepreneurial loans decreased by 42 per cent. On the other hand, the real value of central and local government investment declined by 46 per cent as a result of tight fiscal policy.

Among the advantages of the economic policy being applied is that Hungary's debt service rate showed a considerable improvement over the past years. The index—as a percentage of exports—fell to 32 per cent in 1991, as compared to 81 per cent in 1985 and 59 per cent in 1990.

Inasmuch as this tendency continues, Hungary will no longer be in the group of seriously indebted countries with medium incomes. The drop in inflation is also a positive sign.

As a result of steps towards a market economy, there are 600,000 entrepreneurs in the country today. Experts believe the private sector accounts for one-third of the gross national product today.

The change in enterprise and property structures, and the liberalization of prices and imports have made it possible to carry out an export offensive. Over four years, the share of the EC and EFTA [European Free Trade Association] countries in Hungarian foreign trade rose from 43 per cent to 60 per cent.

Convertible Hungarian exports almost tripled as against 1983, and their value could be as high as USD [U.S. dollars] 11 billion in 1992.

The balance of foreign trade turnover showed a surplus of USD 133 million at the end of the first six months of 1992, which marks an improvement of USD 1.1 billion over the corresponding period of 1991.

Walesa Urges Improvement of Parliament, Prosecutors

LD2808194492 Warsaw PAP in English 2158 GMT 27 Aug 92

[Text] Warsaw, Aug. 27—President Lech Walesa sent letters to speaker of the Sejm (lower house) Wieslaw Chrzanowski and Justice Minister and Prosecutor-General Zbigniew Dyka, the president's press office said on Thursday [27 August].

In his letter to speaker Wieslaw Chrzanowski, President Lech Walesa urges the parliament to start working on what is really important for Poland, that is, economic problems, law-abidingness, and above all control of corruption and fraud.

Mr. Walesa wrote that he had an impression that some members of parliament had forgotten what their real duties were and he called for another acceleration without which the process of reforms cannot succeed. "Nobody and nothing will ever forgive squandering of people's hopes and wasting the historic opportunity which Poland has now."

In the letter to Justice Minister President Lech Walesa asks why prosecutors who had promised at a meeting in the Belweder Palace long ago to clarify major financial scandals, such as the disappearance of the debt servicing fund Fozz and the Art-B Company scandal within three weeks did virtually nothing until today. "This must be changed," wrote the president.

Walesa Meets With Workers at Gdansk Shipyard

LD2808221892 Warsaw TVP Television Second Program Network in Polish 1900 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Lech Walesa's meeting with employees of Gdansk shipyard's W-4 section began 15 minutes late this afternoon.

[Correspondent] It was, as the president himself put it, a man-to-man talk, concerning, among other things, the unsettled accounts of economic scandals, vetting, the state of the country, and the lack of contact between the political elites and society. The president said that cooperation with Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka is going very well and that he is not considering any form of presidential government at present. Let democracy operate, he said.

The president described the nonexistence of a main plan, outlining the strategy and aims of Polish reforms, as a real lack.

[Begin Walesa recording] What is it that we are building, in fact? Take—I don't know—Holland, Belgium, France, Germany—that's the kind of thing we are building. When we have chosen, now say: All right, but not in a day, it cannot be done. Let us say, in my main plan, that in the first year of our reforms, all factories with up to 1,000 people must be private. They must be; the voivode must find private businessmen. All state land up to 50 hectares must belong to a specific owner. That is your task. Beyond that limit, the minister will start dealing with it.

In the second year, we will go further, for you will have become a bit richer, we will have become a bit richer. We will double it: 100 hectares must be got rid of; the voivode must find owners. A thousand people—factories must be—I don't know—five come to an agreement with owners, one comes to an agreement. Settle it at the grassroots level and do not come with every trivial little issue to the president or the minister. He has only been there for half a year. He has no more idea than you, for he is a good man, an expert even, but he has not been a minister, just like I have not been President. [end recording]

[Correspondent] Great interest was aroused by one of the questions regarding the president's behavior toward the Jan Olszewski's government. Lech Walesa maintained his negative assessment of the vetting operation undertaken by that cabinet, stating that it was an attempted coup d'etat and a bungled one at that. He took a negative position too on the plans for vetting in the Army.

Supports New Government

LD2808202692 Warsaw TVP Television First Program Network in Polish 1730 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] At a meeting in the Gdansk shipyard, President Lech Walesa has spoken out against the view that the three years of a Solidarity government have been wasted. He said that, despite appearances, Poland—taking into account the circumstances in which it found itself—has won a great success and had stepped out decisively along the path of democracy. Now, in the president's opinion, we will have to make an effort to change this success into cash.

[Begin Walesa recording] Surely you remember when I was asked? The president should be apolitical, the president should be a mediator, the president should be above all this. I think that when stability is achieved such a mediator, someone who is left in the game—such a person is needed. Well, I did all this, I got rid of ... [changes thought] but today I am not able to do what you are demanding of me. Let me make this quite clear. With this prime minister and with this government I am counting, I am really counting, on great achievements. Truly, for the first time there is a great sense of understanding with this prime minister and with this government. This government has a horrible situation to deal with; it has to resolve all the problems that have piled up so far. It has a horrible set of circumstances to deal with, and that is why I am deeply convinced that I shall not have to organize a party or support myself, that the government, with my help...[changes thought] Everything else will come out right without my having to make such a move.

If six months from now, however, there are no solutions and you are dissatisfied, then I, together with you and others, shall have to travel around the country and ask that a new body be organized, that there should be an organization from the point of view of winning the parliamentary elections—to ensure that we have a majority in the Sejm, winning other things as well, and then we will—just as we have said here—implement my program and your program. [end recording]

General Staff Chief Says Army Opposes Vetting

AU2808085992 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 13 Aug 92 p 2

[Zbigniew Lentowicz report: "The Army Oppose Vetting"]

[Text] The military will oppose the vetting law proposed by the Senate, because "it might have a destabilizing effect" and "is unjust toward personnel," said Division General Tadeusz Wilecki, the new head of the Polish Army General Staff, on 12 August.

After the ceremonial transfer of duties from Division General Zdislaw Stelmaszuk (who will continue serving in the military, most probably in the role of an adviser to the minister of defense) at the headquarters of the General Staff in Warsaw on Wednesday [12 August], General Wilecki said that the military's opposition will take the form of persuasion. "We want to meet senators and deputies to explain to them that in the military belonging to the party was a special case and was to a large extent the result of coercion, and from the point of national defense, the effect of the vetting operation would be exceptionally negative," explained the head of the General Staff. Nevertheless, the Army will respect the final political decisions that are made on the vetting issue. "Many of us would leave. That will not serve the interests of the country," warned General Wilecki. He also said that he would oppose attempts to distinguish between better and worse personnel, which is what some irresponsible politicians are trying to do. "There are no separate groups of younger and older officers. The officers corps is and will remain a single body," said the head of the General Staff. Under the new structure of the civilian Ministry of National Defense, a broad, integrated General Staff ("the mind and heart of the Armed Forces") will be the actual command of the Army in accordance with the principle of individual responsibility, and will be accountable to the minister. As it will function as the command, it will determine the character of the Armed Forces in peacetime and prepare the Armed Forces for operations in exceptional situations. One can therefore expect its powers to be increased. A team is currently working on appropriate new legal mechanisms. The new head of the General Staff considers the development of harmonious relations between the ministry's future civilian and military structures a matter of key importance. General Wilecki said: "I do not envisage any problems regarding cooperation with the president or the prime minister. However, I am not someone who is reserved, and I will resolutely articulate the expectations of the Army because to a degree I am also responsible before history." He added that he also wants to make the General Staff "an organ advising politicians."

Once work on establishing and defining the powers of individual departments of the civilian ministry are completed, the reorganization of the Army will be speeded up. The work will take account of the ceilings on basic weaponry negotiated in European talks, the principle of a balance of forces on our borders, the existing infrastructure, purchasing equipment from Polish industry above all, adjusting the relative strength of the different branches of the Armed Forces, and, of course, financial realities.

General Wilecki said: "It would be a good thing not to become involved in the Yugoslav conflict," and "what I wish the states of former Yugoslavia is peace above all." However, if other political decisions are made committing us to involvement in the Balkans "the Army will adhere to them."

Possible alterations to the way in which basic military service is performed are being examined. It is to become shorter, more intensive, and more attractive to young people. The time that is spent on guard duty, economic activities, and the servicing of equipment will be reduced, and "the practice ranges will become busier."

Solidarity-80 Reports Attempt on Leader's Life

LD2808221392 Warsaw PAP in English 2039 GMT 27 Aug 92

[Text] Szczecin, Aug. 27—Deputy Chairman of the Solidarity-80 Trade Union Daniel Podrzycki confirmed on Thursday [27 August] that the Inter-Union National Negotiating and Strike Committee was notified at its meeting in Szczecin today that there had been an attempt on the life of the union leader Marian Jurczyk.

Podrzycki told PAP that the event which can be regarded as an attempt took place in the night on August 20 when Mr. Jurczyk was travelling home from Tychy where he had attended a meeting with striking car factory workers.

Podrzycki declined to release any more details except that "this was not a single case" which also happened to other committee members. Police were not officially notified about the case, Podrzycki said.

Unionists Look Back to August 1980 Accords

LD3008182592 Warsaw PAP in English 1826 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Warsaw, Aug. 29—Marian Krzaklewski, chairman of the Solidarity Trade Union, looking back on the eve of the 12th anniversary of the signing of the August 1980 accords at those historic days said that Solidarity emerged as a social movement whose aim was the overthrowing of the then totalitarian system. We

finally won that struggle in the 1989 parliamentary elections, stressed Krzaklewski.

Solidarity is transforming into a professional union, but remains faithful to the same, as 12 years ago, values, observed the Solidarity leader.

Marian Jurczyk, leader of the Solidarity 80 trade union said: Polish August 80 has undoubtedly brought freedom of thought and speech, contributed to the creation of a different Poland. However, it is difficult to conceal that 12 years after those events the life of the majority of Poles, especially workers and pensioners, is more difficult.

Referring to the current situation Jurczyk noted that all those who press for a sensible social policy protecting the most needy are labeled as post-communists. This is especially painful for a person like me, who was accussed before a military court during the martial law of an attempt to overthrow the state by force. Especially painful, when one knows that the only cause of repression, like in 1980, is the struggle for basic workers' right, stressed Jurczyk.

One of the events marking Sunday's anniversary was today's holy mass in the intention of Solidarity members and their families celebrated at the Gdansk St. Brygida Church.

Self-Defense Union Sues Over Headquarters 'Siege'

LD2808180192 Warsaw PAP in English 1422 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Warsaw Aug. 28—The Self-Defence (Samoobrona) Farmers Trade Union on Friday [28 August] sued the Confederation for Independent Poland (KPN) following a clash over both parties's headquarters in downtown Warsaw two days earlier.

The premises of Samoobrona were "taken over by force by 20 masked KPN men on August 26," the Self-Defence claims. It also maintains that on Friday, KPN introduced "a state of siege" in the building.

Both sides claim the right to the premises, but Self-Defence leader Andrzej Lepper said he would wait for the court verdict to solve the dispute. His union "was not planning any attacks" on the occupied building, he declared.

Six Trade Unions Demand Negotiations

LD2808210792 Warsaw PAP in English 2111 GMT 27 Aug 92

[Text] Szczecin, Aug. 27—Six large trade union organizations represented at the Inter-factory National Negotiating and Strike Committee on Thursday [27 August] strongly demanded negotiations with the government, the committee's press spokesman Daniel Podrzycki said.

The committee "expects the conspiracy of silence to be ended at last," Podrzycki said. He explained that Thursday's meeting of the committee focused mainly on the strikes at Tychy car factory and in the copper basin in Lubin. He alleged that with a minimum of goodwill, the conflict at Tychy could have been easily solved but in the meantime mass media were spreading misinformation about the worker demands.

Podrzycki said a team of experts would start working for the committee in the middle of September to polish up and promote the 21 postulates which were formulated recently. He also said that the committee was receiving many letters of support every day but there was no response from the government.

The committee includes representatives of the Solidarity-80 trade union, the post-communist All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions OPZZ, unions of miners, railway workers, farmers' Self-Defence and the strike committees from Tychy and Lubin.

Ombudsman Calls for Visa Requirements for Romanians

LD2808164392 Warsaw PAP in English 1156 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Warsaw, Aug. 28—Ombudsman Professor Tadeusz Zielinski has called on Prime Minister Hanna Suchocka to introduce visa requirements for Romanians visiting Poland.

In a letter sent to the prime minister, the ombudsman pointed to the necessity of putting an end to threats posed to the "rights and freedoms of Polish population" living in the region of the Polish-German border by an uncontrolled inflow of foreigners.

According to Zielinski, the small effectiveness of the Polish authorities against law breaking Romanians leads to the increase of crimes committed by them.

Zielinski said that living conditions of Romanians in Poland and their methods of making a living by prostitution, theft and begging were "inadmissible from the stance of human rights observance." He added that there are instances of "lawlessness rampant in the border areas" when Romanians are imprisoned without a trial.

The ombudsman noted that the main reason for such a situation was lack of a proper infrastructure which would "allow to treat foreigners in an appropriate way" as well as "ineffective actions by institutions set up to deal with the problem."

According to Zielinski, the only effective measure of precaution would be the introduction of visa requirement for Romanians.

The ombudsman dismissed as wrong the Foreign Ministry's stand on the issue which claims that the decision to introduce such requirement would be "discrepant with the general tendency of liberalizing travelling regulations

and would cause considerable inconveniences for Poles travelling via Romania." He said that interests of Poles in Poland should be taken into consideration in the first place.

Scientific Brain Drain Problem Examined

LD3008095192 Warsaw TVP Television Second Program Network in Polish 1900 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Poland is high on the list of countries that suffer from a brain drain. In the last 10 years, 6,500 scientists have left Poland altogether, and 9,000 scientists have left to find a different job inside the country. This information comes from a first report entitled: The Brain Drain From Higher Education and Science, prepared by the European Institute of Regional and Local Development of the Warsaw University.

[Correspondent] The research was conducted in 103 scientific centers—employing 28,000 people. Most often scientists leave from Wroclaw, Upper Silesia, and Warsaw; the lowest numbers are from Lublin and Cracow. Thirteen percent of former employees of Warsaw University and 16 percent of those from the Wroclaw Technical University are abroad.

On the whole, they choose the United States, Canada, and Germany. There are institutes from which 80 percent of employees have emigrated. The report speaks of three main reasons for the emigration of scientists:

[Unidentified voice] First, the relatively low wages in Poland; second, the greater possibilities of professional development abroad; and third, the political situation. The political situation in Poland in particular in 1981-89 caused an increase of about 30 percent in the numbers of Polish scientific workers emigrating.

[Correspondent] The large emigration of scientists lasted until 1986. In the years that followed, the numbers increasingly fell. Those emigrating were mostly in the chemistry, physics, computer, and biology fields.

[Unidentified voice] In these fields, teams that had worked well and had significant scientific achievements were broken up. The situation is also disastrous from the point of view of training future cadres because in certain departments in the university there is no teaching cadre to train new scientists. In a few years' time, there may arise a situation in which we will, for example, have to train computer experts or biologists in foreign universities—which would, of course, be extremely expensive.

[Correspondent] Only 30 percent of those leaving find work in scientific institutes abroad—most often biologists and physicists. Lawyers and economists belong to the group that rarely is able to continue their academic career.

Let us compare: Scientists who emigrate from England almost always continue to work in their own profession. The brain drain phenomenon can be seen in many West European countries, especially in Denmark and Ireland; however, this is because of an over-abundance of specialists. Also, all Western countries have many more people with higher education than we have.

In the last two years, a new phenomenon has been noticed: scientists, it is true, no longer emigrate in such large numbers, but they are looking for work in Poland outside their own fields, especially those who come from Upper Silesia, Lodz, and Poznan.

Iliescu, Snegur Conclude Talks, Make Statements

AU2808150892 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1300 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Here are the statements made by the president of Romania, Mr. Ion Iliescu, and of the president of the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Mircea Snegur, at the end of the talks that they held in the town of Husi today, 28 August.

[Begin recording] [Iliescu] First, I would like to stress the significance of this moment when our meeting has taken place, namely, the day after the first anniversary of the proclamation of Moldova's independence. We have taken this opportunity to extend our congratulations and our best wishes to the political leadership of Moldova and to all the citizens of the Republic of Moldova.

Second, our meeting is part and parcel of the practice that has been established in our relations, that is to hold summit meetings between the presidents, meetings of heads of governments, of government members, representatives of parliaments, and of other officials. I believe, that this reflects a real development of relations between the two Romanian states in all areas.

This time the meeting has been held in a new context, that is, after a very complicated and tense period that was dominated by military conflicts. Now, this is a period of peace, and we have taken this opportunity to brief each other on several issues. Primarily President Snegur informed us about the results of negotiations and talks that were held in connection with the process of consolidation, of halting hostilities, and of starting disarmament of units involved in this process. He also briefed us about negotiations held in Moscow, that will continue in Chisinau, first about the withdrawal of the military unit from Chisinau and in the long run, the withdrawal of the 14th Army.

We also exchanged views about the way in which our cooperation is to continue within the mechanism of the four and within international bodies to give stability to this process and avoid the repeat of conflicts.

Finally, we discussed development of bilateral relations, and we assessed together the results of Prime Minister Sangheli's visit and talks in Bucharest, and concrete aspects of the economic relations and understandings that were concluded in Bucharest between the two governments.

We express our joint wish to support this process of a many-sided development of economic relations and the development of relations in other areas such as: culture, education, and human relations.

We had a useful meeting that I believe will mark one step forward in the process of developing our bilateral relations.

[Unidentified reporter] How does this meeting compare to other such meetings?

[Iliescu] Every time we meet, every new meeting permits us to evaluate the stage of problems that we are confronting, and as I was saying, it marks the result of joint efforts to establish peace in the Eastern parts of Moldova. Thus, it is a favorable framework for developing constructive activity also on a domestic plane and for renewing and developing our bilateral relations in the field of economy and other areas of our social life.

[Snegur] As it happens, these days the leadership of the Republic of Moldova begins a dynamic activity in the field of diplomacy, and it is normal that this beginning should be here in Romania, marked by our talks with President Ion Iliescu.

As far as our meeting and talks are concerned, I want to tell you that one of the major subjects we discussed was to continue to find a peaceful settlement to the conflict in the eastern parts of the Republic of Moldova. We have noticed that as a result of the convention concluded on 21 July, the cease-fire has started, peace was declared, and premises were created to proceed to the second stage, that is the examination of political aspects. Thus, these were the issues that we discussed with the president and with our delegations.

Another noteworthy moment was when we noticed certain new aspects, although in the accords that were signed between the governments of the Republic of Moldova and Romania all the problems of economic integration were very clearly outlined. However, today we discussed again the issue of Moldova joining Romania's power grid. We also discussed the construction of a railway that would connect, let us say, Botosani with Romania [as heard] and would also allow us to carry out a closed railway circuit. Also, given the fact that in the rayons neighboring the border very many joint enterprises were set up, we intend to create free commercial zones between Moldova's rayons and Romania's counties.

The third aspect is: Upon my request, the issue of presidential elections in Romania was also broached. During these discussions I said there, and I am saying it now before you, I wish President Iliescu great success in the elections. [end recording]

Daily Deplores Current Situation in Moldova

AU2908152192 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 26 Aug 92 pp 1, 4

[Article by Valeriu Graur: "Mircea Druc Was Right"]

[Text] The evaluation of the five-month-long state of emergency recently abrogated in Chisinau has caused a feeling of bitterness and desolation among us. Not a single factor that demanded this state of emergency has been eliminated and not a single goal has been achieved. The territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova continues to be violated. Romanians are humiliated, maltreated, and persecuted in their own homes even

more brutally than before. The Russian military presence in the region is even more massive. The separatists have become even more aggressive and impudent. The ferocious terror initiated by these people is hindering many Romanian refugees in their attempt to return to their homes, and the fact that the authorities in Chisinau accept today something that they regarded as unacceptable in the past is the height of humiliation, namely the "status of the Dniester region"; in other words, the sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova over this territory is being questioned. Thus, abolishing the state of emergency represents total defeat for the Romanians. The question is whether so many young lives had been sacrificed in vain and what is the result of so much suffering and material damage?

In trying to analyze the causes of this defeat, we must reject the alleged military weakness of the Moldovans because the defenders of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova demonstrated great heroism and an impressive ability to fight. The day of 19 June, a day of glory for the Romanians, proves this. Here is a short description of the events of 19 June: The Conciliatory Commission of the Parliament met in Tighina on that day. In the afternoon, clearly displaying provocative intentions, pro-Russian guards attacked the town's police department with guns and mortars. A policeman was killed and many were wounded. Under these circumstances, a special police force led by the courageous Colonel Hamuraru came to the aid of the policemen and, with a stormy attack, he succeeded in liberating the town within 30 minutes, killing more than 100 bandits without sustaining any losses. Horrified, the guards withdrew in panic into one of the army bases of the 14th Army in the castle of Tighina. The next day, the pro-Russian guards, the followers of the separatists, panicked and left town. Entire districts of Tiraspol were also evacuated toward Odessa. The panic, also fueled by the alarming declarations of the separatists, was so big that Chisinau had to issue a communique to assure the civilian population that Tiraspol would not be attacked. At that moment, armored carriers of the 14th Army left their garrisons and thus Russia began an open aggression against the Republic of Moldova. The liberators of Tighina seemed to be able to confront the artillery and tanks trying to force the bridge from the direction of Tiraspol (five tanks were destroyed) but they were attacked from the rear by the Russians. As a result of the Russian attacks with artillery and tanks, the center of the town was destroyed and hundreds of innocent civilians were killed.

From this moment, one could feel the lack of a national army. There were no forces to man the defense of the positions taken. The Moldovan fighters left the bridge, and the center of the town fell into the hands of the enemy again.

Thus, a splendid victory was followed by a partial delivery of the positions; later, under the Yeltsin-Snegur agreement, this becomes a shameful defeat.

The criminal delay in creating an independent armed force, as well as the dismantling of the volunteer units created by former Prime Minister Mircea Druc to form the backbone of a future army, proved to be acts of sabotage.

Mircea Druc was right when he warned that his dismissal from the position of prime minister would open the way for the members of the former nomenclature. Today, we are witnessing the return of a great number of such people into the new government in Chisinau.

Mircea Druc's political farsightedness is also clear from the development of the official relations between Bucharest and Chisinau, between the Romanian Government and the... Romanian Government. It has become increasingly clear that the pro-Kremlinist nostalgia on both banks of the Prut River wants the current state of affairs to continue. In the framework of mutual assistance between comrades, Chisinau sent a large delegation to Bucharest, and its presence aims at supporting the present government in Bucharest, in the middle of a full-fledged electoral campaign. The Romanian side in Cotroceni also supports all the actions of its Moldovan comrades.

We must sadly note that, while the "former" comrades closely collaborate with each other, the opposition is limiting itself to making sterile declarations about Bassarabia and North Bucovina. Every political group is referring to the problem of Bassarabia in its electoral propaganda, but none of these parties has any representative of the organizations in Bassarabia on their lists of candidates.

Mircea Druc's participation in the current electoral campaign should enjoy the support and the great affection of the entire Romanian nation because he is the real representative of the Bassarabia issue, this bloody wound of our nation. A massive support for this talented politician will be a national manifestation of our desire to accomplish our sacred dream: the Reunion!

Nastase Views Strained Relations With Hungary

AU2708122892 Bucharest ADEVARUL in Romanian 21 Aug 92 pp 1, 8

[Interview with Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase by Gabriela Negreanu; place and date not given: "Let Us Look Toward Budapest With Humor and Wisdom"]

[Text] [Negreanu] Do you believe that there are forces interested in turning Romania into a new Yugoslavia? If so, are these forces internal or external? And precisely what types of forces are they?

[Nastase] The question is profoundly....

[Negreanu] I know, naive.

[Nastase] It is naive and profoundly speculative, because we are surrounded by millions of people. By 23 million. What does "forces" mean? Does it mean two people, one

thousand, or five thousand? And do those five thousand think together or separately that Romania should be.... Thus, I believe there is a certain interest in this respect, or, to be more precise, there is the wish at the level of certain people or certain....

[Negreanu] Groups?

[Nastase] Yes, groups that are trying to create an internal diversion in Romania aimed at dissolving the state. The question here is whether such an issue belongs rather to the area of pensioners playing chess in Cismigiu Park and discussing how the country should be run. Thus, there is a difference between this type of discussion and issues that receive certain political, strategic, and international backing [preceding word in English].

[Negreanu] You mean backing from the word "to back"?

[Nastase] Yes, I mean assistance, support. And that is when we become interested in the matter and that is when our counteractions on a foreign relations level begin.

[Negreanu] Should begin or have already begun?

[Nastase] They are constantly operating. For example, when should the letter I sent Mr. Geza Jeszenszky have been written? In my opinion, when the reference to those congresses [the Third World Congress of Hungarians and the Transylvanian Hungarian Congress] in the Hungarian press started to become significant and when we learned that the Hungarian Government was financing this action to be attended by several Hungarian officials, to a significant extent.

[Negreanu] This is not the first time something like this has happened.

[Nastase] That is right. We must therefore evaluate very carefully the moment when something acquires a political dimension. Certainly, there are provokers, but we must always avoid having complexes in this matter, and we should take action abroad in the area of information. Lately we have started doing it in a much more serious manner. We have published a white paper and you, in your newspaper ADEVARUL, have also outlined this issue. (note: I am not working with ADEVARUL, but only cooperate with it sometimes—G.N.)

[Negreanu] Romania has started to become an interesting country, has it not?

[Nastase] That is precisely what I have been trying to say for a long time and I believe that I have convinced some of my colleagues, namely foreign ministers, that Romania, in an average period of time, could become the first winner in Central Europe. One might notice a certain interest in strategic connections and several countries are starting to become interested in having relations with us. These are not simple personal choices. Using these elements, we started building much more balanced and more positive relations with NATO, the United States, and the Western European Union.

[Negreanu] Since when?

[Nastase] I think we can talk about the last six or seven months. These relations are not reduced to bilateral issues, let us say with Hungary, although, in this case, we also have a development, namely the ball is in the court of the Hungarian Government. It has not given us a definitive answer and we are making no progress in a problem of European dimension because of their reluctance to accept provisions on refraining from territorial claims. This is a nondemocratic and non-European position.

[Negreanu] A flagrant violation of international law.

[Nastase] Absolutely. Thus, in a way, I believe that our diplomatic action was absolutely correct.

[Negreanu] We might be accused of passivity in circumstances in which things are getting intricate abroad as far as we are concerned. Maybe certain people were waiting for reactions that were not exactly part of the nonviolence doctrine you seem to prefer.

[Nastase] Yes, I am a fan of his....

[Negreanu] Of Ghandi's?

[Nastase] Of Zeno's. In the race with Achilles the tortoise wins because Achilles is extravagant, looking to the right, to the left, to the left.... I believe that in the long run, perseverance and very serious action can win through. For example—the fact was not sufficiently commented on in the press— in spite of the fact that we were reproached in comparison with Hungary, we have succeeded in being elected to four major international organizations in the area of human rights. In chess, when you are making an opening gambit, you evaluate all your pawns carefully; you do not start with your knight and let it run all over the board.

[Negreanu] But there are also dishonest things to be considered.

[Nastase] They have always existed and will always exist.

[Negreanu] Are we prepared to avert them? If Transylvanian autonomy is proclaimed in Budapest, what alternative do you envisage?

[Nastase] From the point of view of real politics it is meaningless. You and I could proclaim Transylvania's self-determination. Well, then what? There will not be two but 500 people who do it. This is nonsense.

[Negreanu] But what about the government's agreeing to it?

[Nastase] First of all there is no formal accord and there never will be. Maybe there will be a certain complicity. In any event, it will have no effect in international law. These things do not make a great impression on diplomatic offices, they are meant to create a certain international pressure, namely the idea that there is "something unclear" or a gray area in Transylvania. And then,

another meeting is held, another book is written, or another film is made about it.

[Negreanu] In this case, I also suggest that we should...

[Nastase] Claim something.

[Negreanu] Yes, claim something.

[Nastase] Things should not only be looked at with humor but with wisdom as well. At Helsinki, the Europeans clearly established the basic rules of coexistence in Europe. Thus, we should not look at things apprehensively, but with the seriousness of someone who knows his rights and should make them known. Maybe we have not achieved a lot in this area, but I am encouraged by the way in which the political parties and the press have reacted to what evidently appeared to be a danger to the national security of our country.

[Negreanu] Are you talking about the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania [UDMR] as well?

[Nastase] In this case things are a little unclear to me, because I do not understand to what extent the honorary president of a party can participate in such a meeting in his own name, without representing that party. I do not know what the UDMR's clear position is on this matter. However, I believe that in order to function within the Romanian political system, the UDMR should make its position clear as soon as possible.

Council of Europe Representative Visits Cluj-Napoca

AU2808195292 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1828 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/8/1992—Friday, August 28, Friederich Konig, rapporteur for Romania of the Political Commission of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, paid a visit to the city of Cluj-Napoca. The declared goal of his visit was to study the problem of ethnic minorities and inter-ethnic relations to the end of drafting a report to be submitted to the European Forum he is representing by the end of November and, at the same time, to check the "serious accusations" against Romania made by Senator Geza Szocs during the European meeting held in Budapest in June.

Friederich Konig met and had talks on the aforementioned topics with executives of the Cluj County Prefecture and Council, of the City Hall and of the Cluj-Napoca City Council. He also met and talked separately with leaders of the Democratic Union of Hungarians in Romania and of the Romanian National Unity Party, as well as with representatives of the local organizations of the National Salvation Front, the Democratic National Salvation Front, the Civil Alliance Party and the Republican Party. He requested to be informed about the current aspects of the protection of ethnic minorities particularly in the field of education and the materialization by local administration of constitutional competence. He asked his colloquitors about their opinion on "a possible granting of certain collective rights to ethnic minorities."

Asked to speak about his impressions Friederich Konig told ROMPRES: "the contacts I had supplied more accurate information about the situation of ethnic minorities in Romania, information I cannot analyze all now. I will include in my report both the complaints of the ethnic Hungarians and the opinions of Mayor Gheorghe Funar and of the others."

Six Candidates Register for Presidential Election

AU2808195392 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1826 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/8/1992—Till August 27, at midnight, when the candidacy registration term expired, only six of the numerous personalities who announced their intention to run for the president of Romania complied with legal formalities, namely Ion Iliescu, Emil Constantinescu, Gheorghe Funar, Ion Manzatu, Caius Dragomir and Mircea Druc.

Ion Iliescu:

Was born on March 3, 1930 in the town of Oltenita, on the bank of the Danube. A water power engineer, held offices in the Communist Party hierarchy, including that of secretary of the Central Committee, replaced in the early 1970's owing to his divergencies with the former dictator, Ceausescu. Elected president on May 20, 1990, runs again for the presidential office as a nominee of the Democratic National Salvation front.

Emil Constantinescu:

Born on November 19 January, 1939 in Tighina, a town lying now in the Republic of Moldova. Geologist and jurist, now professor at Bucharest's Faculty of Geology and rector of Bucharest's University. Vice-chairman of the Civic Alliance Movement, one of the components of the opposition's coalition—Democratic Convention—that nominated him for the highest office in state.

Gheorghe Funar:

Born on September 29, 1949 in the town of Sinnicolau Mare, in Banat (Western Romania). Economist, now mayor of the Transylvanian City of Cluj-Napoca. Well-known through his points of view on a peaceful coexistence of Transylvanian Romanians with the Hungarian Minority. Nominated by the Romanians' National Unity Party.

Ion Manzatu:

Born on August 11, 1932 at Bobilna, a commune in Transylvania. Physicist, author of theoretical and experimental works. Candidate of the Republican Party the chairman of which he is.

Caius Dragomir:

Born at Slatina, Olt County, northwestern Romania, on July 16, 1939. Physician, experienced in medical research, poet and essayist alike. Now a state secretary for the press, and a candidate of the National Salvation Front.

Mircea Druc:

Born on July 27, 1941, in the commune of Pociumbauti, Northern Bukovina, area occupied by the former USSR in 1940. Economist and psychologist, former premier of the Republic of Moldova and chairman of the Christian Democratic People's Front of Moldova. Runs for Romania's presidency as an independent.

Iliescu Senate Candidacy Found Constitutional

AU2908183792 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 1700 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] We received by fax—from the Legal Directorate of the Presidency's Political Analysis Department—a communique on the latest commentaries in certain newspapers in connection with the alleged violation of the Constitution by President Ion Iliescu when he put his name down on the Democratic National Salvation Front's [FDSN] list of Senate candidates in the Bucharest Municipality constituency.

The communique emphasizes, among other things, that President Ion Iliescu has not asked to join the FDSN, and has taken no step to become a member of this party. In accordance with the provisions of Article 34, Paragraph 3 of Law No. 68/1992 on the election of the Assembly of Deputies and the Senate, the incumbent president is allowed to run in the parliamentary elections. It is wrong to interpret Law No. 68/1992 as stipulating that a person should belong to a given party to run on that party's electoral lists. Indeed, Paragraph 4 of Article 5 of the aforementioned law emphasizes that the lists of candidates should also stipulate, as the case may be, the political affiliation of the candidates; however, the formulation, quote, as the case may be, unquote, clearly indicates that the law also accepts the filing of candidates without political affiliation.

In this respect, as the communique of the Legal Directorate of the Presidency's Political Analysis Department points out, President Ion Iliescu accepted to be included in the FDSN's list for the Senate elections.

Government Issues Decision on Subsidy Cuts

AU2808201892 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1819 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 28/8/1992—In its August 28 meeting Romania's Government decided that subsidies are to be reduced by one third starting September 1 for a number of products and services to the population. These cuts will be differentiated. Subsidies for meat and meat preparations, sugar, edible oil and absorbent cotton for medical use will be reduced hundred per cent. Subsidies for bread, prepaid public transport tickets will be cut by approximately one third. The subsidies for electricity will be reduced by 25.6 per cent and those for heat by 6.4 per cent. The prices for butter, milk, powdered milk and fuel remain unchanged.

Social protection to be ap[illegible]or the reduction of subsidies will consist of a [illegible] per cent compensation for the rise in the pric[illegible]iffs of products and services that are subsidized and of [illegible] per cent for the rise in the prices and tariffs of the unsubsidized products and services. Starting September 1 the minimal base pay will be 12,920 lei per month as to 11.100 lei at present. The average pay rise starting September 1 will be 15.3 per cent.

Izetbegovic Comments on London Conference

LD3008174892 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Hercegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] The Bosnia-Hercegovina delegation that participated in the London conference returned to Sarajevo today. On arriving in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Hercegovina President Alija Izetbegovic made a brief statement to the media regarding his visit to and impressions of the conference:

Our contacts were numerous and the talks were difficult. Our public has been informed about some of them. Some time passed; meanwhile, some new things have developed. One of the London conference conclusions is to continue talks in Geneva. If the bombardment of towns continues, however, we will not attend any further talks. I will inform the presidency and the government about my visit to London and propose that a government delegation go to Geneva. We will promote a concept based on a democratic, decentralized Bosnia-Hercegovina in which all will be able to manage themselves. The Cutileiro-Carrington concept of cantonization of Bosnia-Hercegovina has finally been abandoned.

New people will conduct future negotiations. It will actually be a 22-member coordination committee composed of representatives of numerous international institutions: The UN, CSCE, EC, the Islamic Conference, etc. It is obvious that negotiations will be conducted on a new basis, but it is necessary to stress once again that there will be no negotiations with criminals—regardless of any price we will have to pay for this— Alija Izetbegovic stated.

Sees Talks as 'Limited Success'

TA2808204892 Ankara Turkiye Radyolari Network in Turkish 2000 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Bosnia-Hercegovina President Alija Izetbegovic has described the results of the London Conference as hopeful for the future. In a statement to Turkish Radio and Television [TRT], Izetbegovic expressed concern over the implementation of the decisions adopted at the conference. TRT correspondent Birol Yigitcan reports from London:

[Begin recording] Izetbegovic made a statement to TRT before departing from London at the end of the conference held with the aim of finding a solution to the Yugoslav crisis. He said: The London Conference achieved a limited success in bringing together the parties concerned and in the adoption of decisions regarding ethnic cleansing, the closing down of the camps, and the imposition of a heavier embargo. We will, however, be able to make a better assessment on how these decisions will be implemented within a week or 10 days.

Noting that Turkey was the only country that proposed a military intervention when necessary, Izetbegovic added: History will, perhaps, one day write that this was the only measure that could prevent war. In a message he sent through TRT, Izetbegovic said: I would like to express our gratitude to the Turkish Government and the people for the warm and friendly interest they have shown. Our people are grateful for the humanitarian, political, and moral support of the Turkish people. [end recording]

'80 Percent' of Gorazde Reportedly 'Liberated'

LD3008103592 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Hercegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Excerpt] At the beginning, news about the latest success of our army in Gorazde.

[Unidentified correspondent] Esteemed listeners, this day will be remembered by the inhabitants of Gorazde. Bosnia-Hercegovina armed forces have liberated Gorazde after several days of fierce fighting on the left bank of the Drina river. They broke the resistance of Serb-chetnik hordes and deblocked the city. The entire territory of the municipality on the left bank of Drina river, 80 percent of the territory of Gorazde municipality, has been liberated.

Serbo-chetniks from the right bank of Drina river, together with mercenaries from Serbia and Montenegro, are fortifying their positions in panic, they are bringing in new reinforcements, but even this will not help them in a battle with the brave men from Drina, the members of Bosnia-Hercegovina armed forces from Gorazde municipality. Over 90 chetniks have been killed during the battle for the deblocking of Gorazde. [passage omitted]

Army Issues Statement on 'Alleged Withdrawal'

LD3008214292 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Hercegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] The information service of the Armed Forces General Staff of Bosnia-Hercegovina has issued a communique in connection with Radovan Karadzic's statement to REUTER today regarding the alleged withdrawal of 1,000 soldiers from Gorazde.

The communique says that Radovan Karadzic's statement is not true. No voluntary and unilateral withdrawal of the aggressors' soldiers took place. The aggressors have been withdrawing only where they are losing and where they are forced to move from the line which they are occupying due to the activities of the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina armed forces. The aggressors are on the defensive on the territory of Gorazde and are engaged in hurried regrouping. With the other part of their forces they are withdrawing to the area of the municipality of Rogatica under strong pressure from our units. The aggressors are also lost their positions in the wider region of [words indistinct]. Free territory has thus been created on the Gorazde-Renovica-[words indistinct], south of Visegrad.

In an offensive launched by our forces, a large number of enemy soldiers were killed and material and technical equipment was seized. This created conditions for our armed forces to dictate the combat activities on the wider territory of Gorazde leading toward the final liberation of Gorazde.

All these facts confirm that Radovan Karadzic's statement is yet another in a series of maneuvers by a man who tried to present the loss of incentive at the battlefield and the loss of temporarily occupied territory as a political concession and goodwill; in this he is finding it more and more difficult to convince his followers, let alone the world public, the General Staff statement says in conclusion.

Muslim Ambush of Refugee Convoy Reported

LD3108110192 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1011 GMT 31 Aug 92

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 31 Aug (TANJUG)—BORBA daily today writes that during the weekend the Muslim forces attacked a convoy of women, children, and elderly persons from Gorazde, bound for Uzice [Serbian town near the Bosnian border] and that many civilians were killed.

This daily writes that the convoy consisted of some 1,000 Serb refugees from the villages of Obarak, Povrsnica, Popov Do, and Hranjani. One hundred of them made it to Uzice, 200 arrived in Rogatica, while nothing is known about the fate of 700 of them.

Citing the statements of Dragan Vasiljevic and Ilija Krunic, who were with the convoy, BORBA says that the convoy was attacked at the entrance in the river Spreca canyon near the village of Raketici. Muslim forces opened fire from an ambush directed at passenger cars, buses and trucks, transporting mainly women and children. According to eyewitness accounts, seven persons were killed in the first attack. [passage omitted]

Muslims Said To Have Bulgarian, Hungarian Weapons

AU2808161092 Belgrade Radio Beograd Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Velimir Elez report from Olovo]

[Excerpt] The last two days have been hell on the positions of the Second Romanija Motorized Brigade near the village of Krusevo in the area of the Serbian commune of Olovo. The Islamic fighters fired from 82-millimeter mortars.

By the way, according to the stories told by the captured Islamic fighters, strong enemy forces are concentrated in Krusevo, where they get help from abroad in food and weapons. That was confirmed yesterday, during our visit to these positions, where we saw, among the captured weapons, things produced in Bulgaria and Hungary. [passage omitted]

Serbs Deny Responsibility for Sarajevo Attack

LD3008224392 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2213 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, 30 Aug (TANJUG)—Regarding the shelling of the Alipasino Polje market in Sarajevo, where a large number of civilians perished, the Presidency of the Serb Republic [of Bosnia- Hercegovina] rejects any possibility that there is any connection between this event and activities of the Serb Republic Army, SRNA reports this evening.

The Serb Republic Army did not carry out any artillery actions over this part of the city, because had there been artillery actions free movement of citizens and their shopping at the market would have been impossible.

On the basis of video recordings of this event a conclusion can be reached that the Vase Miskin St. scenario [reference to bread line attack in May] was used again

Only one shell landed on the market. The precision in hitting the target and the presence of TV cameras is further proof that all this was obviously stage-managed, the statement says in conclusion.

Muslim, Serbian Prisoners Exchanged

LD2808204992 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1926 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Pale, 28 Aug (TANJUG)—Through the mediation of the commissions for prisoner exchange and the UNPROFOR [UN Protection Forces], 32 Muslim POW's from the Kula prison [in Lukavica] were exchanged for 43 Serbian POW's from the Viktor Bubanj prison [near Nedzarici] at 1400 today, SRNA reports.

When the coach with the Muslim prisoners passed by the airport, the Muslim forces from Butmir and Dobrinja 3 opened fire at their own people, the press center of the Serbian municipality of Ilidza reports.

Forty-two Muslims from the Kula prison were supposed to be exchanged today, but 10 of them refused to leave the territory of the Serb Republic [of Bosnia-Herzegovina] and signed a statement to this effect of their own accord, SRNA concludes.

Serbs Reportedly Tortured in Croat-Controlled Camp

LD2908164492 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1248 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Doboj, Aug 29 (TANJUG)—Croat authorities in Bosanski Brod are holding prisoner at least 1,000 Serbs from this northern Bosnian town at the border with Croatia, as well as from Derventa, Odzak and villages in the Mt Vucjak area.

The Serbs are being held in six prison camps, claim a group of Serbs from Bosanski Brod who were imprisoned for two months there and who are now in the refugee

reception centre in Doboj. They say they were harassed and humiliated and that the women were raped and brutally tortured regardless of their age. The former prisoners reluctantly testify about their suffering, but one of them, Kojo Ceric from Sijekovac, says they were beaten every day and that many had their arms and legs broken.

Sixty-year-old Ranko Kuslic says Croat authorities of Bosanski Brod took the maimed Serb prisoners to Sijekovac and Donje Kolibe, to hide them from representatives of the International Red Cross and U.N. peace keepers. They were beating and harassing us until the last moment when we were exchanged, he says.

Sarajevo Shelled; Chemical Agents Reportedly Used

AU2808153792

[Editorial Report] Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Hercegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian at 1300 GMT on 28 August gives further details about the situation in Sarajevo:

Tarik Obralic begins his dispatch from the Stari Grad commune by saying that five people died in the shelling of this commune last night. "The activities of the aggressor's artillery continued through the day when grenades were falling over the entire territory of the Stari Grad commune," Obralic reports and adds that a child was killed by a sniper in Vratnik today. Then he says: "At approximately 1230 [1130 GMT], the enemy fired chemical agents at the slopes of Trebevic, on the locality of (?Kostanica) and Bogusevac. In his powerlessness to do anything else, the enemy, as you can see, now even used chemical agents, which the wind blew along the left bank of Miljacka River." The reporter also says that grenades were sporadically falling on the very town center in the early afternoon hours.

Momo Dragicevic, who reports from the Sarajevo Security Services' Center, says that the town center is "momentarily somewhat calmer right now, as it could not get any more turbulent than it was at the time of our midday dispatch." He says that the territory of the former military hospital is sporadically shelled by inflammable projectiles. He reports shelling of Breka, Brekin Potok, and the nearby settlements. "After the chemical agents were fired at Stari Grad and Skenderija, which we have already reported, they were also fired at Bjelave," Dragicevic says. "Novo Sarajevo is hellish," the reporter says. He adds that Otoka and the region around emergency ward were "shelled fiercely." "In Novi Grad commune, Mojmilo, Alipasino Polje, Olympic street, Dobrinja, and Butmir are being shelled fiercely," Dragicevic says.

Croatians Protest Muslim Forces' Behavior

LD2908214792 Sarajevo Radio Bosnia-Hercegovina Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] The Croatian Defense Council [HVO] in Stup [Croat-inhabited district of Sarajevo] today lodged a protest with the president of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Government, the vice president of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Assembly, the Armed Forces, the president of the Herceg-Bosnia Croatian community, and others. The protest says that the HVO for Sarajevo, as a component part of the HVO Army fighting for the liberation of the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina in the territory of the city of Sarajevo, is acting within the zone of responsibility in Stup: the Doglodi, Bare, Otes, and Azici districts, and part of Nedzarici.

Proceeding from the attitude which the Armed Forces of Bosnia-Hercegovina have demonstrated so far in this zone of responsibility, it is obvious that some units do not consider the HVO for Sarajevo and its members to be an equal partner in the combined struggle against the joint enemy. Difficult communications between the people and problems with the supplies from the city to Stup and the other way round, raids by these units on this zone of responsibility without previous announcement or permit, the arrest of senior officers of the HVO for Sarajevo, the unauthorized confiscation of goods, the inappropriate behavior of members of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Armed Forces toward the population in the zone of responsibility of the HVO for Sarajevo, and especially impermissible war activities in this area, without prior coordination, planning, and agreement—in brief, this behavior can be interpreted as incorrect, constituting occupation of the territory which is within the zone of responsibility of the HVO for Sarajevo.

We believe that the continuation of such behavior could result in conflicts with tragic consequences. We therefore resolutely warn you that we will not tolerate any such impudent behavior in the future. We therefore demand that all units of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Armed Forces—which are in this area without our consent—be withdrawn from this zone of responsibility, and that normal communications be established between the city and Stup and the other way round, the HVO protest reads.

Croatians 'Trying To Escape;' Prevented by Tudjman

LD3008102692 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0942 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Bosanski Brod, 30 Aug [TANJUG]—From Croatian soil, the artillery has continued to fire on the positions of the Serb Republic [of Bosnia-Hercegovina] Army in Bosanska Posavina today, a TANJUG correspondent reports.

Since the liberation of Bijelo Brdo near Derventa, the most important stronghold of the Croatian regular forces in Bosanska Posavina, enemy resistance has been broken and the enemy is trying to save its skin by crossing the Sava river to the Republic of Croatia, from whence Croatia carried out an armed aggression against Bosanska Posavina five months ago.

Members of the Republic of Croatia regular Army are trying to escape to Croatia over the bridge between

Bosanski and Slavonski Brod, but Tudjman's police are preventing them from doing this.

For this reason, Croatian soldiers are hiding in the oil refinery in Bosanski Brod, hoping that the Serbian Army will not attack the Bosanski Brod oil refinery, TANJUG's correspondent reports.

There are several "fortifications" inside the refinery built by the Serbs imprisoned in camps in Bosanski Brod.

The Croatian forces have, in recent months, been demolishing and plundering the refinery, and they even put up a picture of Ante Pavelic [ustasha leader in the period of Independent State of Croatia] in the refinery director's office.

One of the leaders behind all the plundering and the liquidation of Serbs in Bosanski Brod is Armin Pohara, recently promoted to the rank of general by Alija Izetbegovic and sent by him to the hills around Sarajevo to fight against the Serbian forces.

Paper Reports Identity, Whereabouts of Mojahedin

LD3008201592 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1212 GMT 30 Aug 92

["Pool" item]

[Text] London, Aug. 30 (TANJUG)—A self-styled Moslem parliament in London on Saturday [30 August] opened a register for volunteers willing to help "their brothers in Bosnia," as TANJUG learns from well-informed sources.

But advance units of the interventionist "Moslem Army," commanded by Bosnian Mojahedin Chief Abu Abdel Aziz, have already fought intensively against Serbs in Sarajevo, Visoko, Zenica and Jajce, it was reported on Sunday by the SUNDAY TIMES Zenica correspondent Andrew Hogg.

Hogg confirmed what has so far been mere guesswork—the hostility the Mojahedins were feeling towards Croats. In this reference, commander of the Zenica headquarters of the Croatian Council of Defence (HVO) Zivko Totic complained that once the war was over the Moslems would want to create a fundamentalist state because already at this time the local Croats in Zenica were sacked and their jobs made over to Moslems.

"Islamic Army" advance units already have several hundreds of fanatic combatants who reached Bosnia early August. Eight of them have lost their lives while ten others have been wounded.

The SUNDAY TIMES writes that their main goal is to engage Moslem forces in the opening of corridors from surrounded Sarajevo towards Croatia and the Adriatic to facilitate the moving in of heavy weapons and volunteers from Islamic countries. Abu Abdel Aziz asserts he will not meddle with Bosnia's internal policy but specifies that his dual duty in Bosnia is "jihad" and "dawa" (teaching of authentic Islam).

In the central Bosnian town of Travnik alone, the London paper writes, 80 Arabs set out for the frontline against Serbs on Saturday.

In Zenica, where a large black flag with Koran verses is flying outside their headquarters, young Bosnian Moslems join in, the SUNDAY TIMES says and quotes one of them, Rizo Isakovic, as saying "I am happy among Mojahedins, for a Moslem is a Moslem."

Tudjman Comments on London Conference Results

LD2808124192 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in English 1205 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] The Croatian delegation, led by President Franjo Tudjman, came back from London today. President Tudjman stated that the Croatian delegation can be completely satisfied with the conference and its conclusions. He also stated that he attended many conferences and meetings, but this one gave the most results. Representatives of the European and world politics requested an end to the aggression and establishment of peace.

Aside from that, the president said he was personally satisfied that during the conference he was able to meet and talk with several statesmen, as well as with the director of the World Bank for Reconstruction and Renewal.

In answer to the question whether he thought stricter sanctions against Serbia would have the intended result—that is, to stop the war—or if military intervention would in the end be necessary, President Tudjman replied that he expected the conference would bring results. He added that during the conference, differences emerged between the positions of the Yugoslav and Serbian-Montenegrin delegations. The president said this indicated the two parties differed in their positions and relations towards the conference decisions, although it seemed to him that there was no other way other than to accept and apply those decisions.

Izetbegovic Visits Tudjman, Comments on Conference

LD2908203192 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Croatian President Franjo Tudjman received Bosnia-Herzegovina President Alija Izetbegovic in Zagreb this afternoon. Izetbegovic stopped over in Zagreb on his return from London. Zlatko Kuretic reports for Croatian radio:

The two presidents discussed the further implementation of the agreement on friendship and cooperation between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, signed on 21 July, and the conclusions of the London conference. The talks were attended by the head of the department for constitutional system and Josip Manolic, vice president of the HDZ; Gojko Susak, minister of Defense; Ivan Jarnjak, minister of Internal Affairs; and Mate Boban president of the Herceg-Bosnia Croatian community. After the talks, Izetbegovic made the following statement for the press:

[Begin recording] I have stopped over in Zagreb for a day on my way back from London and I wanted to pay a courtesy visit to President Tudjman. We had a lengthy conversation about how the situation has changed after the London conference. We examined the situation in this respect, as well as the documents and responsibilities in this connection, that is all. It was a pleasant conversation. [end recording]

Serb Leader Says Panic Does Not Represent Krajina

LD3008200992 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1231 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, 30 Aug (TANJUG)—Zdravko Zecevic, prime minister of the Republic of Serbian Krajina , said in a public statement today that at the recent London Conference on Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav delegation, "except for Milan Panic," represented the interests of the Serbs of the republic of Serbian Krajina and the Serbs of the Serb Republic [of Bosnia-Hercegovina].

Zecevic said, "Mr. Panic embarked on some negotiations with Croatian President Dr. Franjo Tudjman. We are aware of the fact that he seriously intended to accept Mr. Tudjman's document on the state borders of Croatia; that is, to recognize Croatia within the so-called Avnoj borders [drawn by the Tito regime] and thus bring into question the future and destiny of the Serbian people of Serbian Krajina."

"I would like to stress that nobody has been authorized to conduct such negotiations on behalf of the Republic of Serbian Krajina, and we cannot allow Mr. Panic to naively or cunningly bring into question the future of our people in direct negotiations with that fascist and Serb-eating cannibal," the statement says.

"We are therefore calling on the Assembly of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to do everything within its power to thwart these types of negotiations," the statement concludes.

UN's Goulding Arrives in Zagreb for Consultations

LD3008164592 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1537 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, 30 Aug (TANJUG)—Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary for peace operations, arrived in Zagreb today. Goulding is to tour the UN Protection Force [UNPROFOR] areas in the former Yugoslavia during the next seven days, according to a statement that TANJUG received from UNPROFOR.

Goulding is to have intensive consultations with UNPROFOR Commander Indian General Satish Nambiar and his staff with representatives of the EC monitoring mission. Goulding is also to meet Croatian President Dr. Franjo Tudjman in Zagreb tomorrow.

Next Friday, Marrack Goulding is to visit Belgrade, the statement says. Following his visit to the former Yugoslav republics, the UN under secretary for peace operations will leave for Geneva, where Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, co-chairmen of the steering committee that was

set up at the recent London Conference on Yugoslavia, will be informed about the results of his mission.

Nastase Visits Zagreb, Signs Protocol Agreement

AU3008191292 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1540 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 30/8/1992—Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase visited Zagreb on 29 August at the invitation of Croatian Foreign Minister Zdenko Skrabalo.

A protocol was signed on the occasion for diplomatic relations to be established between Romania and Croatia, the Romanian Foreign Ministry's spokesman Traian Chebeleu said and added that it had also been decided that the Romanian consular office in Zagreb be upgraded to embassy status. The two ministers' talk covered bilateral relations for the most part and a number of outstanding agreements are to be signed shortly in the economy, culture, tourism, and so forth.

Teams of experts will meet before the end of the month to work out the details of cooperation.

The two ministers also evaluated the outcome of the London conference on former Yugoslavia and exchanged views on how best to deal with the situation in Bosnia and Hercegovina and the other problems raised by the Yugoslav crisis when efforts are resumed in Geneva to resolve it.

Statistics on Croatian Exports Reported

92BA1344B Zagreb NOVI VJESNIK in Serbo-Croatian 10 Aug 92 p 6

[Article by Vesna Antonic: "Export 'Surplus'"—first paragraph is NOVI VJESNIK introduction]

[Text] In the first six months, Croatian exports "weighed" $2.3 billion.

Zagreb—According to data from the Republic Institute for Statistics, in the first six months of this year the Republic of Croatia exported goods worth more than $2.3 billion, or 24.7 percent more than in the same period last year. At the same time, Croatia imported goods worth almost $2.2 billion, which is a 7.9-percent reduction in imports compared to the first half of last year. It is worth emphasizing that a surplus of $161 million was achieved in Croatia's foreign trade, while exports covered 107.4 percent of imports.

The data indicate that Croatia is reviving its foreign trade, although it is moving very slowly. Admittedly, the figures indicate that in certain sectors the result in this import-export year is worse than in wartime 1991. In this regard, one should bear in mind that the dollar amounts are calculated using the annual statistical exchange rate of foreign currencies, in which one dollar is worth 83.3 Croatian dinars.

In the first half of this year, almost $1.2 billion in goods was exported to the developed countries, which is 15.9 percent less than the year before. Goods worth more than $1 billion, or 33.1 percent more than in the same period last year, were imported into Croatia from those countries. For example, goods worth more than $766 million were exported to the EC countries, which is 36.3 percent less than in the first six months of last year. At the same time, goods worth almost $783 million, or 33.9 percent less than in the same period last year, were imported from the EC. In trade with the East European countries, Croatia has shown a substantial reduction in exports, by 51 percent, and imports are 55.7 percent less than in the same period the year before.

Croatia showed its largest reduction in trade with the developing countries. During the first six months of this year, Croatia exported goods worth somewhat more than $77 million to those countries, and imported $164.6 million worth, which is a reduction of 65.6 percent and 54.7 percent, respectively, compared to the year before.

And what about trade with the republics of the former Yugoslavia? During this June, Croatia exported goods worth more than $204 million to those areas, and imported more than $174 million. In contrast to the first half of last year, when there was no trade with the countries of the former Yugoslavia, during the first six months of this year it nevertheless started to revive. Thus, exports to some of the former republics of the former Yugoslavia exceeded the amount of $912 million, while imports into Croatia reached almost $781 million.

In spite of all the Slovene-Croatian frictions, Croatia exported goods worth more than $675 million to neighboring Slovenia during the first six months of this year, and imported more than $634 million worth. Goods worth almost $144 million were imported from war-torn Bosnia-Hercegovina. At the same time, goods worth almost $144 million were exported to that area. According to the data from the Republic Institute for Statistics, more is also being exported to Macedonia than is being imported from there. During the first six months goods worth more than $61 million were exported there, and goods worth almost $38 million were imported.

Rupel: Conference Seen as 'Step Forward'

AU2808173392 Ljubljana Radio Slovenia Network in Slovene 1330 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Matej Surc report]

[Text] At the Conference on Yugoslavia, Slovenia participated exactly in the role it wanted. In the opinion of the of our delegation head, Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel, Slovenia was efficient at the conference and contributed to its success. He said that at least 85 percent of the Slovene proposals were acknowledged in the London documents. In Dr. Rupel's opinion, the London conference represents a step forward in the efforts to stop the war, but not the final solution to the crisis in the former Yugoslavia.

[Begin Rupel recording] In short, I believe that the conference was a success, that this conference in its documents and numerous debates presented precisely the arguments that Slovenia had produced, or to say it differently, we found a lot of similar views and people who sympathize with our views among the participants of this conference, and the whole world participated in this conference. The international community on that occasion in a larger and more representative show, that is to say, composition—whatever, depending from the point of view—offered a new institutional framework to end the war and resolve the crisis in Bosnia-Hercegovina and to resolve other problems that were on the agenda of the previous Yugoslav conferences. [end recording]

Analyzing the documents, regarding the resolution on general principles, Mr. Rupel particularly stressed the part of the text that speaks of the acknowledgement of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries on the territory of the former Yugoslavia. Regarding the document on Bosnia-Hercegovina, it is particularly important that the head of the Bosnian Serbs agreed to remove all heavy armament within seven days. It is true that regarding the pressure upon Serbia and Montenegro, the sharpest proposal, which Slovenia also favored, was not accepted. However, the final document is, according to Rupel, nevertheless resolute enough in condemning the aggressor. It specifically speaks of Serbia and Montenegro, and not of Yugoslavia, although the self-styled Prime Minister Panic attempted differently. According to Rupel, the majority of the conference participants did not take Panic too seriously. Belgrade and Podgorica were clearly branded as the main culprits for the war. The London conference laid the foundations for an even sharper political, diplomatic, and economic isolation of Serbia and Montenegro. If the two states do not come to their senses, an even greater punishment is awaiting them, among other things, as one could interpret from [British Prime Minister] Major's conclusive speech, a military intervention.

Kucan, Rupel Receive Romania's Nastase

AU2908141492 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1311 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Ljubljana ROMPRES, 29/8/1992—Upon the invitation of Slovenian Foreign Minister Dimitrij Rupel, Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Nastase visited Friday [28 August] the capital city of the Republic of Slovenia.

The visit started with the solemn signing of the protocol on establishing relations between the two countries, the spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, Ambassador Traian Chebeleu reports.

Mr. Nastase called then on Slovenian President Milan Kucan. During a long talk, the two sides exchanged opinions on the London Conference devoted to former Yugoslavia's problems. They covenanted that close consultations should be held between the Romanian Foreign Ministry and the Slovenian one, considering that works will soon start in Geneva of the Standing Committee of the Conference on Yugoslavia, and Romania is to be included in the committee. President Kucan showed special interest in growing relations with Romania.

Next, the two foreign ministers thoroughly approached questions related to bilateral ties in various spheres, agreeing that an appropriate legal framework should be set up. The Slovenian foreign minister requested Romania's support at various international fora in which Slovenia intends to take part (like financial institutions, for instance).

Liberal Party Calls For Drnovsek's Resignation

92BA1332A Ljubljana DNEVNIK in Slovene 14 Aug 92 p 3

[Article by (jp): "Repeated and New Accusations"—first paragraph is DNEVNIK introduction]

[Text] The Liberal Party is not satisfied with Dr. Drnovsek's response in connection with the secret URADNI LIST; if Dr. Drnovsek does not resign, the next press conference will be in Vienna.

Ljubljana, 14 Aug—At yesterday's press conference, Danijel Malensek and Vitomir Gros, candidate for state president, repeated and sharpened even further the accusations against Prime Minister Drnovsek. Among other things, they are accusing him of having signed, as president of the SFRY Presidency, a decree that is the legal basis for "today's measures by the occupation authorities in Bosnia-Hercegovina, including the genocidal establishment of concentration camps."

Not only did he sign that decree, but he also "was partly responsible for its implementation, when as the commander in chief he sent JNA [Yugoslav People's Army] units to Kosovo." This decree, in their opinion, was also the basis for the JNA's attempt to occupy the border crossings in Slovenia. Consequently, on behalf of the

Liberal Party, they are demanding Drnovsek's resignation from the position of prime minister, which he occupied illegitimately in any case.

Their assertions are based on the secret URADNI LIST SFRJ from July 1989, in which the "Guidelines for Preventing a State of Emergency" were published, with Drnovsek's signature underneath. Gros has already used this secret URADNI LIST during the discussion at the time of the constructive vote of no confidence in then Prime Minister Lojze Peterle, and Dr. Drnovsek's election as the new prime minister. As we know, he did not convince a majority of the deputies in parliament.

Dr. Drnovsek's response to the accusations voiced at Tuesday's [11 Aug] press conference of the democratic opposition's coordinating group did not satisfy Malensek and Gros. On the contrary, they claimed yesterday [13 Aug] that Dr. Drnovsek was lying and defending himself in accordance with the tried and true Bolshevist prescription of discrediting one's opponent. Specifically, Gros claimed, it is not true that the present Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is not a successor to the previous Yugoslavia. It claims itself that it is a successor, and most of the laws from the previous Yugoslavia are valid there. This is also proven, according to Gros, by the statement by its Prime Minister Panic that he will cancel the state of emergency in Kosovo, which was declared precisely on the basis of the above-mentioned guidelines. In their opinion, Dr. Drnovsek cannot evade responsibility, as the German generals did in the Nuremberg trials, by saying that they were only carrying out orders, since at that time he was the state president and the commander in chief. Gros also thinks that it is not true that at that time all political prisoners were released at Drnovsek's request. All that was done was that Azem Vllasi's trial was interrupted.

They also based their demand for Dr. Drnovsek's resignation on two examples: the resignation of U.S. President Richard Nixon, "because he lied to the public about the Watergate affair," and the international isolation of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim "just because he was a lieutenant in the German occupation army."

If the right response is not made this time, i.e., if Dr. Drnovsek does not resign or the public prosecutor does not initiate proceedings against him, they will convene the next press conference in Vienna or Celovec in order to inform the international public about all this, they stated at the end of the press conference.

[Box, p 3]

An excerpted statement from the Liberal Party:

"Cynicism and an insult to the Slovene people are represented by the fact that Janez Drnovsek, one of the key proponents of the idea of perserving a reborn Yugoslavia but one still oppressive for Slovenes, was illegitimately appointed head of the Slovene Government.

"While he was president of the SFRY Presidency, Mr. Janez Drnovsek signed a decree on the 'Elimination of a State of Emergency in the SFRY,' which introduced an entire arsenal of coercive measures for suppressing human rights and democratic processes in Yugoslavia. This arsenal covers the possibility of establishing concentration camps, introducing forced labor, and all the other measures that Europe last knew in the times of Nazi fascism and Stalinism."

[Box, p 3]

"In accordance with such behavior, Mr. Drnovsek ostentatiously participated in a celebration in Gazemestan together with Mr. Milosevic, and through his presence objectively supported Mr. Milosevic's actions and threats at that gathering."

[Box, p 3]

The parts of the secret URADNI LIST SFRJ cited by the Liberal Party:

"The SFRY Presidency declares a state of emergency if it feels that armed or other activity represents a threat to the independence and sovereignty of the state and its territorial integrity and constitutionally specified social order.

"The conditions for the declaration of a state of emergency are fulfilled if... (4) other mass criminal acts occur with the use of weapons and other forms of violence against the foundations the socialist self-management social order....

"The SFRY Presidency can order that authorized bodies, on the basis of the applicable regulations, ensure the following measures and activities:... (8) a prohibition against leaving a certain place, and a designation of mandatory residence at a specified place, for individual persons... (12) the introduction of a labor obligation in certain activities...."

Comments on New Prime Minister Sarinic Viewed

92BA1341A Ljubljana DELO in Slovene 14 Aug 92 p 20

[Article by Peter Potocnik: "Prime Minister for an Atom Bomb?"—first paragraph is DELO introduction]

[Text] New Croatian Prime Minister Hrvoje Sarinic returned to Croatia in order to build nuclear power plants, and as early as the 1990 election campaign he convinced Tudjman that the course of development for Croatia's energy lay in nuclear energy, which, "enriched" by HDZ [Croatian Democratic Community] ideology, is leading to ecological disputes with the states of Central Europe.

After Wednesday's "coronation" of Tomislav's latest successor on Markov Square in Zagreb, the fourth prime minister-designate for putting together a government in Tudjman's Croatia, 57-year-old construction engineer

Hrvoje Sarinic, presented his own government, the HDZ [Croatian Democratic Community] cabinet. In the Croatian flood of memoire literature, which includes Mesic's *Destruction of Yugoslavia*, which cries out for a documented answer to the question of how the last president of the Yugoslav Presidency, with Tudjman's blessing, defended the preservation of the former unified state, *Promised Land*, subtitled *Political Countermemoire*, by Tudjman's first adviser, Dr. Slaven Letica, has current and perhaps not only current value. In a collection of documents and essays from postcommunist Croatia, Letica mentions Hrvoje Sarinic only once, on page 268, when he describes the characteristics of naive, amateur Croatian politics, which also does not have the capabilities of international negotiators even psychologically, much less professionally. The only exception is Hrvoje Sarinic, "who has some negotiating experience acquired in the business world."

In his latest book, Slaven Letica thus also kept quiet about the main reason, namely, why he left Tudjman's staff of advisers at the beginning of March last year, primarily because of Hrvoje Sarinic's power and influence.

Even though Tudjman has publicly tried periodically to represent the expansion of a man who was obviously not just an ordinary chief of the presidential staff through planning the rest and work of the head of the Croatian state, with the arrival of the first German ambassador in Zagreb, Sarinic acted in the role of foreign minister, but, for the public, remained Tudjman's servant. In actuality, he competed extremely successfully with Tudjman's first adviser, Slaven Letica, and his successors when he became, so to speak, as he said himself, the director of Tudjman's enterprise, which included both advisers and officials. He is therefore quite certainly among the drafters and not just the executors of Tudjman's policy. As a powerful person in the shadows, he rejected Tudjman's intention of sending him as the first ambassador to Paris, where Sarinic has his second home, or even an appointment as foreign minister.

Builder of Nuclear Power Plants

Sarinic's rise up the unique ladder of Croatian authority is extremely similar to his career in the business world. When then JNA [Yugoslav People's Army] Major General Franjo Tudjman traveled from Belgrade to Zagreb with his five-member family, young graduate construction engineer Hrvoje Sarinic, after working for three months at Zagreb's Hidroelektra, left for graduate studies in France, where in less than nine years he progressed from a technical designer to the director of construction and other services for building a nuclear power plant in Bordeaux. Then, in a similar capacity, he moved to Capetown in South Africa, where he oversaw the construction of two nuclear power plants until 1979. He thus also became a rich man, at least by our standards, since he acquired enough property be able to live without additional income for the rest of his life.

As early as the beginning of the 1980's, it was perhaps for that reason that he traveled as a French citizen to his homeland, where he worked in Zagreb for several years as a representative of the French nuclear industry, in order to supersede other interested parties if a nuclear power plant were to be built in Prevlaka near Zagreb. This was at a time when Croatia was also planning two more nuclear power plants in addition to Prevlaka, because of the shortage of electricity—one along the Adriatic coast between Sibenik and Split, and the other in Slavonia along the Danube, i.e., in the area that is now under UN protection. Although this did not go beyond plans, years ago Sarinic returned with his five-member family and a great deal of capital to Zagreb, where he first intended to establish his own construction enterprise. Because of his experience in building nuclear power plants, he then jumped over to Morocco for another two years, and when he returned he was attracted by the agitation and emergence of the Croatian opposition, when he became involved in politics for the first time. In December 1989 he offered his experience (and probably capital) to the future father of his country for gaining power, in exchange for later activity "in Tudjman's immediate shadow." The solution to the riddle of why the HDZ authorities strove even when they were still in the opposition to keep the nuclear power plant in Krsko in operation until the end of its service life must certainly be sought in Hrvoje Sarinic. The malicious even say that if the situation changed, Croatia would not only continue building nuclear power plants, but would even, at the same time, develop its own technology for the production of an atom bomb, which is possibly the most unlikely dark conjecture. In any case, from now on nuclear energy, in spite of opposition from the Central European states from the standpoint of environmental protection, will be among the most important energy orientations of Croatian development. After the elections, such as they were, the HDZ authorities, in Tudjman's interpretation, will not be hindered by either foreign countries or the domestic opposition.

Prime Minister Between Poverty and Luxury

"In the political area, President Tudjman brought my business experience to its peak," says the fourth prime minister of Tudjman's Croatia, whom it really is difficult to compare both to Stipe Mesic and to the present head of all the Croatian secret police services, Josip Manolic, or even to the last Croatian prime minister, Dr. Franjo Greguric, who according to his own statement will become only a deputy in the new Croatian Assembly, and otherwise intends to return to the foreign trade enterprise Astra. Those who are more familiar with behind-the-scenes affairs in the former Banski Dvori and the Zagorje villa say that Sarinic had the lion's share in the expansion of the outward glitter of the Croatian state's superpresidential system—both in the move by Tudjman and his camarillas, as Dr. Marko Veselica often calls his courtiers, from the "modest" building of the former Croatian Presidency, where the Foreign Ministry is now headquartered, to Banski Dvori on Markov

Square, and then after 7 October, after the air bombardment of Banski Dvori, to Tito's villa, Zagorje. He is not the only one, of course, because the leader of the Croatian right, Dr. Hrvoje Sosic—as he says himself, the president of a "party with three members"—is proposing very seriously that at ceremonies Tudjman should also be dressed in some sort of uniform that would express "the continuity of Croatian statehood, from King Tomislav to the current head of the Croatian state." The president of the Croatian Party says that the appearances of Tudjman's honor guard, who wear clothing similar to that of the former Croatian bans, especially the famous general Josip Jelacic, also express the national awareness of Croats; this is incomprehensible even for the closest northern neighbors, just like the relative moderation of Slovene officials in Zagreb or the surprise of Slovene customers in Croatian shops, who along with us are seeking in vain an answer as to where the Croats are getting the money to engage in such radical measures in restructuring their metropolis.

Before the elections, when economic topics in the best case were merely impossible promises with which the old and now new authorities talked about the prosperity of their population, while 30-percent inflation, with an abrupt rise in wages and pensions, irretrievably crossed the Rubicon of economic collapse, just as today, when the celebration of the "magnificent victory of democracy" still has not settled down, at that time as well they did not think about the unsettled bills. Even though Tudjman is constantly repeating that the Croats themselves will restore and build Croatia, without abundant foreign aid he will not be able to stop the constant decline in the citizens' standard of living, leaving aside the speculations about when and how Croatia will be master of all the territory that is now under UN protection. This is particularly true after Monday's press conference, at which Tudjman agreed with a similar UN protectorate for the entire territory of Bosnia-Hercegovina. Of course, the new prime minister has the kind business connections in France and South Africa that can bring capital into Croatia, in spite of the well-known international standards for membership in world banking institutions, i.e., human rights, a democratic state system, and a market economy. The question, however, is whether these connections are also outside the admittedly strong lobbies for large capital investments in nuclear power plants, and whether the price of financial support will be the construction of one or more nuclear power plants in Croatia, which could become an insurmountable problem for Croatia all by itself, especially in relations with Slovenia, Italy, and Austria.

After the last elections, rumors are circulating among the Croatian population that Hrvoje Sarinic's appointment as Croatian prime minister also confirms the speculations that the Croatian authorities consist of people who are HDZ members by conviction or who bought their posts with their own capital. Allegedly Sarinic was the main contributor for Tudjman's controversial airplane, which is piloted by Sarinic's son Mario. It was also for that reason that Tudjman rewarded him with the office of prime minister.

Federal

Panic Faces No-Confidence Vote in Assembly

LD3108140592 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1307 GMT 31 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, 31 Aug (TANJUG)—The Club of Deputies of the Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS] and the Serbian Radical Party [SRS] today made a motion before federal parliament that Milan Panic's government should receive a vote of no confidence.

Both parties' representatives cited "disregard for the Assembly's conclusions" on the stands that should have been advocated in London as the principal reason behind this inititaive of theirs.

Brana Crncevic of the SPS called on the Chamber of Citizens "to give priority" to this matter and discuss it as early as today. The Federal Government can be put to a vote of no confidence three days after a motion to this effect has been made, as the Constitution envisages.

Supporting the Socialists' demand, Vojislav Seselj of the SRS said that all of the 30 SRS deputies had put their signatures to the demand for a debate on confidence in the government.

Panic Describes Conference as Yugoslav 'Victory'

LD2908063392 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0215 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, August 28 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Prime Minister Milan Panic on Friday [28 August] evening described the two-day conference in London as a success of the Yugoslav delegation and an important victory for Yugoslavia.

"It was a great Conference for Yugoslavia," Panic told journalists upon his return to Belgrade.

He recalled the words speech of British Prime Minister John Major who said that if Serbia and Montenegro intended to fulfill the 12-point plan, which Panic sent to the president of the U.N. Security Council, it was fairly certain they would regain respect in the international community.

"For me, that means sanctions will be lifted," Panic said, adding that otherwise "the Security Council would be called to implement even tougher sanctions."

Panic said that would lead to a complete international isolation of Yugoslavia and thus called on all Yugoslav citizens and all those working on the lifting of sanctions to start implementing the goals set out in the Yugoslav peace plan.

"This is our last chance to return to the international community. If we do it, Yugoslavia will embark upon the road of prosperity, if we do not, we will pay a very high price," Panic said.

On the alleged conflict between himself and Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, Panic said his statement in London had not been accurately interpreted.

I said that anyone who did not observe the London agreement would have to resign, and I asked this of all sides in the Yugoslav crisis, even from those from former Yugoslav republics, Panic said.

He said he had asked for the resignation of Bosnia-Hercegovina's Moslem leader Alija Izetbegovic in London, but added that Izetbegovic "just laughed."

Panic said that he and Milosevic gave their word to Cyrus Vance and Lord Carrington that the Yugoslav 12-point peace plan would be fully implemented.

On his meeting with ethnic Albanian leader Ibrahim Rugova, Panic said some of the ethnic Albanians' demands were justified. He recalled that classes in the Albanian language were not being held and that 800 ethnic Albanian professors had been sacked.

Panic said he promised Rugova that classes in the Albanian language at Pristina University would start on September 15, adding he would keep his promise.

Panic Issues 'Public Warning' to Milosevic

LD2808132192 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1229 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] London, 28 Aug (TANJUG)—Milan Panic, prime minister of the Federal Government, today warned Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic that he will demand his resignation if he does not agree with the peace proposal presented by Prime Minister Panic at the London conference. The text that Yugoslav delegation circles handed to TANJUG notes, however, that Milosevic supported all 12 points of Panic's peace plan.

"On 26 August, at a private meeting between Carrington, UN Special Envoy Cyrus Vance, Panic, and Milosevic, the Serbian president was asked to give his opinion on each of Panic's 12 points. Milosevic told Carrington and Vance that he supported all 12 without exception," the text says.

The same material also quotes Panic as saying: "I am satisfied that Mr. Milosevic has privately supported my program. I now want to give him a public warning. Actions are important, not words. This peace proposal is now an official peace plan for the FRY. I expect Mr. Milosevic to comply—or else... If the Serbian president fails to fulfill his promise, I will consider it my duty to demand his resignation."

The text also expresses Panic's feeling that Milosevic is obliged to support the plan "in good faith" and that he should join "those who want peace in actively implementing every point of the Yugoslav plan, both because of his obligations towards Panic as FRY prime minister and because of his promises to the leaders of the London conference.

The text does not, however, give the reason for Panic's warning to Milosevic, instead confirming the support of the Serbian president for Panic's plan.

Cosic Discusses Outcome of London Conference

LD2908001692 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2218 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, 28 Aug (TANJUG) FRY President Dobrica Cosic said that on his way to attend the international conference in London his fears had been greater than his hopes. On my way back from the conference my hopes are stronger than my fears, Cosic said upon his return to Belgrade, addressing a large number of domestic and foreign journalists. The international conference in London was for us, for the FRY, a conference that brought an about-face. We are deeply convinced that the world community has finally decided in favor of a peaceful solution to the entire Yugoslav crisis and to seek political solutions to achieve an end to the war in Bosnia-Hercegovina, stressed Cosic.

Addressing the journalists at Belgrade airport, the FRY president stressed that the about-face is not a minor one. It seems to me that I dare tell the citizens of the FRY that they no longer have any reason to fear military intervention. I think that political reason has prevailed and that senior officials of the world community have realized that the most reliable ingredients for achieving peace in this part of the world and stabilization in the Balkans are political agreement, negotiations, patience, and time.

Dwelling on the present position of Yugoslavia in the world, Cosic said: I am a little sad to say that our country's international position is still very, very difficult, but not hopeless. For the first time we were given assurances that there are such statesmen in the world community and countries that are prepared to understand and help us, said Cosic. In this respect everyone has shown their true colors in London and one can see who is for peace and who is for threats and aggression. We Yugoslavs have looked each other in the face and I am sad to say that the biggest disappointment I felt in London was after the speeches of our Yugoslav brethren.

Our friends also revealed themselves, however. For the first time we were promised by the international community that sanctions against us would be abolished if we satisfied certain conditions that we are in a position to satisfy. This is an exceptionally difficult task and the conditions are exceptionally difficult—difficult, but not impossible. It goes without saying that peace in Bosnia-Hercegovina and in Yugoslavia does not depend on us alone. I hope that in this horrible civil war in Bosnia-Hercegovina the Muslims and Croats will also understand their responsibilities and their vital interests and, together with the Serbs, seek ways of reaching a mutual agreement so that they can live together in one state and in one congregation, which will ensure their independence and all human rights.

I believe that we have honorably represented our country, but there were very difficult moments. There were moments of ultimatums and the ones when it was so critical that we had to walk out of the conference. Thanks to the wisdom of responsible people and statesmen, however, a compromise was finally reached which for us is honorable and we want to keep to it, like people who have given their word. I believe that we will have enough strength to do so and I look at our future with greater optimism, FRY President Dobrica Cosic said in conclusion.

Karadzic Sees Conference as 'Victory of Justice'

LD2908123492 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0830 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, 29 Aug (TANJUG)—There is room for hope that the London conference will be the first step in the right direction, since the orientation toward a political solution to the conflict in Bosnia-Hercegovina has prevailed, Radovan Karadzic, president of the Presidency of the Serb Republic [of Bosnia-Hercegovina], told TANJUG upon his arrival from London.

The leader of the Bosnian Serbs, however, expressed his belief that there is no place for triumph, stressing that he himself does not feel triumphant, but he considers the conference to be a victory of politics over force, a victory of justice, as well as of British and French diplomacy, and the United Nations.

Radovan Karadzic, however, points to the fact that the international Conference on Yugoslavia started in the well-known style of attacking the Serbian nation and condemning one side only. However, he continued, in the course of the conference and in particular at its conclusion, a balanced attitude by international sides toward the Yugoslav crisis without predominant demands for a military option became apparent.

The principle of the right to self-determination was not stressed but was not ruled out either. This is one of the reasons for the success of the conference, he said.

Speaking about the responsibilities of all the protagonists of the Bosnia-Hercegovina crisis, Karadzic said that the aggression of Croatia against Bosnia-Hercegovina has not been noticed, but he expressed his conviction that it should not be concluded that it would not be noticed one day.

Regarding the supervision of borders and Serbian weapons, the leader of the Bosnian Serbs recalled that the Serbs themselves were offering this in order to give the world an opportunity to see for itself who is attacking first. "Such control will not hinder our defense, but will help us prove that we are not the first to pull the trigger," Karadzic emphasized.

Regarding the offers of the Serbian side to relinquish 20 percent of the territory to the Muslims, Karadzic explained that this only concerned the lines of the border, as the people who live there will decide on their

own, and not any particular area. However, he believes such a concession will not weaken the conflict.

Speaking about the future structure of Bosnia-Hercegovina, Karadzic assessed that the option of the three independent Bosnias is more realistic than a single Bosnia. "The Muslims will either accept the formation of Bosnia-Hercegovina as a community of constituent states or else these states will be independent. The Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina are ready to establish contacts with [the Croatian community of] Herceg-Bosnia, as well as with the Muslims, if they so wish."

Explaining the reason why the delegation of Bosnian Serbs did not leave the conference after the well-known incident, Karadzic said it was important to go back to the meeting for the bilateral talks which were held with, among others, Cyrus Vance, Lord Carrington, Douglas Hurd, Roland Dumas, and with leader of the Bosnian Croats Mate Boban, with whom the "conventional words" were exchanged.

Radovan Karadzic expressed his regret that Portuguese Ambassador Jose Cutileiro, who was presiding over the conference on Bosnia- Hercegovina, had withdrawn, as he was an "exceptionally capable diplomat and a well-intentioned man."

Of Lord Owen, who "is succeeding" Lord Carrington, Karadzic said: "I can only hope that Lord Owen has not been chosen for his support of a military intervention."

Karadzic Says Bosnian Serbs To Respect Agreement

LD2908062792 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0222 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, August 29 (TANJUG)—Radovan Karadzic, the leader of Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina, said on Friday [28 August] evening upon returning from London to Belgrade that Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina were prepared to abide by everything they accepted at the Conference on Yugoslavia.

Karadzic said the Serbian side could accept the agreement because it wants peace and a quick political solution, advising the other side not to use military methods but negotiations to improve its territorial position.

The Serbian side in Bosnia is willing to negotiate about territorial concessions, Karadzic said, explaining his statement at a news conference in London when he said the Serbian side was willing to concede 20 percent of territory under its control to the Moslems.

He said he did not have concrete parts of Bosnia-Hercegovina in mind, but more of a demarcation line, certain Moslem villages which would like to be a part of Moslem Bosnia-Hercegovina or some Serbian villages which would rather be on the other side.

Karadzic Appeals to UK's Major To Intervene

LD2908120292 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 1140 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] The leader of the Bosnian Serbs today asked John Major to intervene after what he called a "crazed onslaught" by Muslim forces in Sarajevo.

Radovan Karadzic accused the Muslims of trying to wreck agreements made at this week's London peace conference. He wrote to the prime minister urging him to demand restraint from Muslim Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic. Karadzic, who is in Belgrade, told Mr. Major: "This does not alter our commitment to the principles of the London conference."

Fighting is continuing in Bosnia despite agreements at the talks, REUTERS reported. Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA said Muslim forces unleashed an assault on Serb-held areas of Sarajevo today in an attempt to break the siege on the city from outside. All sides said at the London conference they would work for a cease-fire, observe human rights and accept the principle that territory should not be taken by force. Karadzic offered to place the Bosnian Serbs' heavy weapons under United Nations control. This process will not start until after further talks in Geneva and a study on the ground by the UN's top peace-keeping official Marrack Goulding, who was flying to Bosnia this weekend.

Commentary Views U.S. Interests at Conference

AU2908205892 Belgrade RTB Television Network in Serbo-Croatian 1730 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Zoran Jedjovic commentary]

[Text] The two-day Conference on Yugoslavia, which ended the evening before last in London, certainly represents a first-class political and media event. Even though it perhaps cannot be said that a dramatic turn-around was achieved, it is quite clear that this meeting will not be only one in a string of previous ones which have left virtually no trace behind them in efforts to resolve the Yugoslav crisis. As far as we are concerned, we can say that one can count as a success the fact that despite definite endeavors, the so-called paper on Serbia was not adopted. This would virtually have proclaimed Serbia the culprit for the Yugoslav drama before a wide international forum.

However, it is quite clear that sufficient threats still remain in the documents that were adopted and it is particularly clear that the group of countries that have so far acted from anti-Yugoslav and anti-Serbian positions will not abandon their stands. It seems to us, nevertheless, that the whole conference should be explained in a little more detail and there are several important matters in this regard.

First, let us deal with the speech by Lawrence Eagleburger, head of the U.S. delegation and acting secretary of state, who in his very sharp speech quite clearly explained what determines the present US stands toward Serbia and how. Eagleburger was explicit in citing that

the civilized world cannot permit a cancer in the heart of Europe, meaning in this respect the war in Bosnia, and that Western democracies must show to the world which, as he put it, contains a billion Muslims that they oppose aggression under all circumstances and in all regions of the world. Moreover, there will be no cantonization of Bosnia and the de facto setting up of a greater Serbia. In this sense, Eagleburger concluded, the Serbian people is to decide whether to join democratic and progressive Europe or to remain behind its leaders in isolation if they continue with the same kind of policy.

It is therefore not necessary to explain America's interest in the Muslims in Bosnia. As regards the attitude to Serbian leaders, this shows that the Serbian people could again be accepted into the European Community if it decides in favor of those who would above all respect some of America's interests, like the interests that concern the attitude toward the billion Muslims in the world.

It is clear that the interests of the only remaining super power cannot be neglected just like that. However, it would be difficult for any government in Serbia and therefore any leaders in Serbia to neglect just like that the fundamental interests of the Serbs in Bosnia-Hercegovina for the love of a billion Muslims.

The fact should also be mentioned that quite a lot of effort was made, particularly on the second day of the conference, to decide whether the unscheduled issue of Kosovo Albanians should be established as an equal subject of the London meeting. Fortunately, it seems that realism prevailed because the representatives of several other states showed that if the so-called special status were introduced by the back door—and that means a special kind of international law for Yugoslavia—this could be a dangerous precedent which would probably be applicable in some other states of the world who are also not lacking in ethnic and minority tensions.

Last but not least, let us note the impression that a disagreement arose between Prime Minister Panic and President Milosevic during the London meeting itself. Moreover, the report was in circulation that Prime Minister Panic had asked for Milosevic's resignation. Even though in the plane yesterday Panic himself actually denied this claim, as well as the claim about disagreements with Milosevic to a group of journalists, it is undoubtable that many people concluded, like the British DAILY TELEGRAPH, that the conference should have made use of the disagreement between the hard-line Milosevic and the considerably more conciliatory Panic, who it was expected would agree much more easily to all sorts of demands.

We should not however see this through the prism of sharp differences. We will easily agree, as Prime Minister Panic says, that we are all in favor of peace, if it is as simple as that. However, at critical moments we should not in any way abandon the necessary firmness and caution because of good desires. Finally, principles in politics, particularly in the West, do not depend on proclamations but above all on key interests. We heard from Mr. Eagleburger what these key interests are at the moment.

Assembly Adopts Motion To Change Constitution

LD3108163392 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1437 GMT 31 Aug 92

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 31 Aug (TANJUG)—The Chamber of Citizens of the Yugoslav Assembly today adopted a motion submitted by the Federal Government for the change of the constitution, which would create conditions for calling early elections. The Commission for Constitutional Questions was tasked with the preparation of a draft law for the change of the constitution, on which the assembly will vote at a separate session.

The government's motion for the change of the constitution was supported by the Constitutional Commission, but did not support an amendment according to which the elections should be held until 31 December, Goran Percevic stated, speaking on behalf of the commission. In his explanation, he said that a constitutional base is necessary for holding early elections and that the amendment of the Federal Government "is not up to the constitutional matter." [passage omitted]

UN Sanctions Cause 'Considerable' Drop in Exports

LD2908142192 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0614 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, August 29 (TANJUG)—The sanctions introduced by the United Nations Security Council against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia on May 30 have caused a considerable drop in sales of Yugoslav goods abroad, the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy (PKJ) said on Friday [28 August].

Yugoslav exports dropped 39.8 percent in July in regard to June, while in that first month of sanctions, they dropped 35 percent in regard to May.

According to PKJ's data, Yugoslav exports dropped 35 percent (to around 1.9 billion dollars) in the first seven months of the year in regard to the same period last year.

Yugoslav firms simultaneously imported around 3 billion dollars worth of goods, or 13.3 percent less than in the same period last year.

Yugoslavia recorded a 1.1 billion dollar foreign trade deficit in the first seven months of the year. During that period last year, its deficit stood at 524 million dollars.

Group Says Embargo Affecting Currency Pensioners

LD2808192292 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0748 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, August 28 (TANJUG)—The United Nations' sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia have deprived 58,000 hard currency pensioners of their monthly pensions, 40,000 children of social aid and

around 50,000 Yugoslavs of their foreign health insurance, the Association of Hard Currency Pensioners of Yugoslavia said on Thursday [27 August].

The Yugoslav authorities have appealed to the U.N. committee monitoring the implementation of the sanctions to exempt pensions and social aid from the ban on monetary transactions with Yugoslavia. The committee recently replied it was not prepared to give blank permission for this type of transfer, but that it was prepared to discuss individual requests.

Around 62 percent out of 58,000 hard currency pensioners earned their pensions in Germany, which induced the association to increase its efforts to resolve the problem with Germany as soon as possible.

German Labor and Social Policy Minister Woerner Last informed the association that Germany stopped paying pensions to pensioners in Serbia and Montenegro as of July 1, because Beogradska Banka, which is authorized to pay them, does not have German marks and cannot pay the pensions in hard currency.

German banks benefit from this situation since they can freely turn over a monthly sum of around three million marks as long as the sanctions are in effect.

Hungarian banks are also profiting from the Yugoslav pensioners misfortune. They offer inter-mediary services for a 6 percent commission.

POLITIKA Reports Syrian Arms Delivery to Muslims

LD3108131892 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1229 GMT 31 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, August 31 (TANJUG)—The Belgrade daily POLITIKA learned from reliable sources on Monday [31 August] that two freighters from Syria had sailed into the Croatian port of Split a few days ago to bring weapons for the forces of Moslem leader Alija Izetbegovic.

The daily said, quoting these sources, that the cargoes included mostly light weaponry for the infantry, automatic weapons, rifles with telescopic sights, flamethrowers, rocket-launchers, special rifles with silencers, and "IC" instruments for night shooting.

The same sources said that representatives of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Yugoslavia and of the European Community (E.C.) had been informed about the contents, routes and final destinations of these shipments.

The sources further specified that there are very well-organized and smooth-running channels for getting weapons to Moslems and Croats in the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, where a civil war has been raging since the spring. The channels are functioning almost legally and most of the weapons have lately been coming from Islamic countries, and some also from the west, the sources told POLITIKA.

The weapons come by land via Austria, the former Yugoslav Republic of Slovenia and Hungary, by air via Croatian airports, and by sea through the ports of Split, Ploce and Rijeka.

This latest shipment of weapons for Alija Izetbegovic was necessary for his "life or death" offensive which is still under way and which is aimed at undermining the London conference, at which Izetbegovic failed to persuade Europe and the world to give him their support.

Izetbegovic is persistent to the end in his war option by openly trying to undermine the conference and constantly violating the embargo on arms exports to Bosnia-Hercegovina. In this, Izetbegovic has the support of his lobbyists - Islamic countries and some western countries, headed by Germany, which has expressed disappointment over the outcome of the Yugoslavia conference in London, POLITIKA concluded.

Draskovic Says Cosic, Milosevic Must Resign

LD2908155192 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1324 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, Aug. 29 (TANJUG)—Serbian opposition leader Vuk Draskovic said that if the presidents of Yugoslavia and Serbia, Dobrica Cosic and Slobodan Milosevic, were honourable men politically, they would have resigned immediately after returning from London because of what had happened at the international Conference on Yugoslavia.

It was disgusting to see how the world had accused us in London as if we were bandits and ridden with plague, said Draskovic—the leader of the Serbian Renewal Movement (SPO), the biggest opposition party in the Serbian Parliament—in an interview to the Belgrade daily POLITIKA published on Saturday [29 August].

Draskovic said he had been against the division of the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina. But now, when the insanity has prevailed and when blood has been shed, a confederal and cantonized Bosnia-Hercegovina is a necessary evil, he added.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Croatia should also be organized as a confederation of two equal state units—the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Serb Krajina (RSK), said Draskovic.

The RSK was proclaimed in the predominantly Serb-populated areas within the administrative boundaries of Croatia in response to its secession from Yugoslavia and the downgrading of its Serb people to a national minority status.

This triggered a war between the Croatian Armed Forces on the one hand and the Croatian Serbs and the Yugoslav Army on the other, after which the RSK was put under U.N. protection. About 14,000 U.N. peacekeepers are currently deployed in the RSK territory.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman is strongly urging a confederal Bosnia-Hercegovina, and it is a matter of consistency to apply the same principle within the boundaries of Croatia which have been determined forcibly and without respect for historical and ethnic justice, said Draskovic.

Belgrade Bank To Exchange Serbian Krajina Dinars

LD2808210492 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1140 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 28 Aug (TANJUG)—The Belgrade Bank DD will as of Monday, 31 August, start buying and selling dinars of the Republic of Serbian Krajina at its exchange office at 4 Knez Mihajlova Street. The rate of exchange will be 1:1. [passage omitted]

Serbia

Milosevic Says Conference Beginning of End of War

LD2908064592 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2348 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Athens, August 28 (TANJUG)—The London conference will mark the "beginning of the end of the war" in Bosnia, said Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic in an interview to the Greek TV station Mega on Friday [28 August] evening. He added that the Republic of Serbia would strongly uphold all peaceful measures.

Milosevic said he was sure that the London conference would help stop the "bloody civil war in Bosnia-Hercegovina", adding he hoped it would begin to yield results soon because the political role of the United Nations had increased and this was a "guarantee of an objective approach to the Yugoslav crisis."

Milosevic sees the political solution for the crisis Bosnia, where he said Serbs and Moslems were brothers, similar to the one achieved through U.S. mediation to calm down the situation in Croatia.

Milosevic said none of the sides in the war in Bosnia were innocent, pointing out that "had there been more wisdom, they could have settled the political crisis in the same way, without shedding a drop of blood, on the basis of a tripartite consensus and the respect of equal interests of the three peoples."

Milosevic did not agree with the evaluation that the London conference had been a "trial of Serbia", but noted there had been "many accusations which had absolutely not been based on facts."

He said he hoped the truth about Serbia and Yugoslavia would be made known and answered affirmatively to the question whether he believed his name would be cleared of accusations.

Asked whether the "Republic of Skopje should be recognized under the name of Macedonia," Milosevic said that, as far as Yugoslavia was concerned, "it would not change its stand" towards the European Community's conclusion that the republic change its name.

Milosevic Views Bosnia Situation

AU2808203492 Belgrade RTB Television Network in Serbo-Croatian 1854 GMT 28 Aug 92

["Exclusive" interview with President Slobodan Milosevic by an unidentified ITN reporter; place and date not given—live or recorded, in English with superimposed translation into Serbo-Croatian]

[Text] [Reporter] [word indistinct] travelling for Belgrade, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic gave an exclusive interview to our TV station. I asked him whether he accepts the essence and the spirit of the London conference; that is to say, returning to the prewar borders.

[Milosevic] Always, not now or a year ago, but much earlier, we made the Serbian stance on this issue very clear; namely, that we do not have any territorial pretensions. This is on the record and in the last two years, before all these clashes started, nobody who is honorable could say that we were striving for the creation of a Greater Serbia or something similar. I am glad that we have now started to join forces in our efforts to stop all these bloody events, and everything that is absolutely bad, and this unjust war.

[Reporter] You know that some people believe that you are striving for a Greater Serbia. Many terrible things have happened in the last few months. Parts of Bosnia where the Serbian population is in a majority are occupied, and all non-Serbs have been forced to leave. This resembles territorial conquest and the seizure of territory.

[Milosevic] Although there are some who advocate such ethnic cleansing, we in Serbia believe that this is a criminal action.

[Reporter] Why did you not prevent this?

[Milosevic] We made it officially known and stressed very clearly that such things must not happen and that all those who are committing such acts must be subject to criminal persecution. There is a civil war there, however. Nobody understands what is going on there. There are no innocent sides or winners in a civil war, only victims.

[Reporter] But you know of some people who are doing such things, some of the warlords who approved this type of action?

[Milosevic] The people that I know, and I am speaking of the Serbian leadership in Bosnia-Hercegovina, assured me categorically that they are opposed to this, and only insane people can believe that such ethnic cleansing could be something good. This is a crime that cannot be accepted or justified, regardless of the side.

[Reporter] But you know that the people believe that you can pull strings and influence the Bosnian Serbs?

[Milosevic] Can you really believe that somebody would have such power to be able to pull strings in a republic in which he was not even elected?

[Reporter] But you are brothers with the Serbs in Bosnia?

[Milosevic] It is clear that certain links with them exist and that one can take advantage of these links to influence them. I used all my influence to stop the war. I would like to remind you, as perhaps you are not informed, that we, in the official statements of the government, in a most clear and resolute manner, condemned the bombardment of Sarajevo, for example. We insist that those who perpetrate such actions must be prosecuted. In a civil war, however, there is no formula for a solution. I believe that some of the other interested parties were resisting the conference for this reason.

[Reporter] How do you see the progress so far?

[Milosevic] I believe that it is positive.

[Reporter] Will you pull out from the occupied territories?

[Milosevic] Serbia has not occupied anything. Serbs in Bosnia have said categorically that they are ready to hand over some of the territory they control to the Muslims and close all the prisoner-of-war camps. I was astonished when I heard information that such camps existed there. I spoke to them and asked them if that was possible, and I got a reply from them that those were prisons where only war prisoners were held. I cannot say that there is nothing there. I can absolutely not state something like that; I cannot be sure. I cannot even be sure that those who inform me about it have the right information. Whenever such an activity exists, however, it is a crime. But let these camps be placed under the control of the Red Cross. What could be better than that? What could be better than that is if they were completely closed, and all those people released.

[Reporter] What if the local Serbian leaders refuse to implement these agreements? How will you force them to do so?

[Milosevic] I hope that their leadership will arrest such people and put them in prison.

[Reporter] What leadership is that?

[Milosevic] Well, Mr. Karadzic, Koljevic, and others that were present at the conference and who signed that they would do exactly that. I believe that they have to stick to their promise. No excuse should be accepted for any kind of failure in that sense. One should keep in mind that these are very important humanitarian problems. We do not want to support any different behavior.

[Reporter] To solve all this, and when all this is over, what will your position be in Yugoslavia? What position will Serbia take?

[Milosevic] Keep in mind that at the conference I received a suggestion—and I am glad that your Prime Minister Major accepted that suggestion, which I made—that all the sides to the conflict must accept the presence of UN officers in each and every unit. If they do so, then we will finish that bloody war in a few days. Simply, that is all the time it takes to do that. I am sure, however, that only those who do not want the truth to surface will oppose the realization of this plan. If UN officers, who will be placed with every army unit, see what kind of units these are, and see if they are violating the cease-fire, after all, they will see that there are 50,000 regular Croatian troops, and not one from Serbia. There is so much pressure on that issue, and why can anyone not catch at least one Serbian soldier, put him in front of television cameras, and say: See now how those liars from Belgrade say that there are no Serbian soldiers, and here he is.

[Reporter] This has been President Milosevic of Serbia, talking to [word indistinct] before flying to Belgrade.

New Bridge Opened With Bosnia Over Drina River

LD3008025792 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1614 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Bijeljina, Aug 29 (TANJUG)—A bridge over the Drina River connecting the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina was opened to traffic on Saturday [30 August].

The 400-meter long bridge, whose construction cost two million dollars, was financed by U.S. businessman of Serb origin Slobodan Pavlovic.

Pavlovic and other speakers at the inaugural ceremony said the bridge should link all the people of goodwill on both sides of the Drina River.

The bridge is of special importance for establishing a land corridor for international humanitarian supplies from Belgrade to the Bosnian capital Sarajevo, which has been repeatedly proposed by Yugoslav Prime Minister Milan Panic.

Speaking at the London peace conference which ended on Thursday, Panic again proposed that the corridor be opened and guaranteed safety to humanitarian aid convoys.

SPS Opposed to Proportional Representation

LD3008024692 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1452 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 28 Aug (TANJUG)—The Socialist Party of Serbia [SPS] holds that there are no reasons to call early elections in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia unless the authorities and the opposition reach agreement on political and legal preconditions for these elections, a SPS delegation at the Federal roundtable talks said today. At a news conference in the party

headquarters, SPS representatives Ivica Dacic and Goran Percevic warned that their party "accepts a compromise but not ultimatums" regarding the issue of majority system and proportional representation.

"If a proportional model is imposed on us, the SPS will not stand in the elections," Dacic said and noted "this cannot happen because socialist are in the majority in all legislative bodies which would have to endorse electoral laws." The governing party insists on the stand that roundtable decisions can be made only by consensus, so it will not accept imposition of solutions, Percevic explained. He reiterated the SPS view that the majority electoral system is in essence democratic, since it is more fair to voters then to parties.

Percevic expressed dissatisfaction with attempts to introduce in roundtable talks a draft law on elections based on proportional representation which, as he put it, "was made by a team of experts under the instruction from someone in the Federal Justice Ministry."

"This is an attempt to favor one option in advance," Percevic said. [passage omitted]

Poll Shows Drop in Popularity of SPS, Opposition

LD3008162692 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1427 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, Aug. 30 (TANJUG)—The latest opinion polls point to a drop in the popularity in Serbia of its ruling party, the Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS), but also the leading opposition parties, director of Belgrade's Institute of Social Sciences Dr. Dragan Pantic has said.

On the basis of the results of an opinion poll conducted in July, Pantic said the decline in the parties' popularity was a result of the expected concern-provoking drop in the standard of living in the run-up to the autumn, which also indicates that Serbia's citizens must be offered new economic and political programmes.

The support enjoyed by the SPS has been waning for a long time, and between February and late July dropped from 25.7 per cent to 23.7 per cent of those polled.

Pantic said the main opposition parties also experienced a drop in popularity—the Serbian Renewal Movement (SPO)—9.2 per cent of the sample, down from 9.9 per cent in June, the Serbian Radical Party (SRS)—13.8 per cent, down from 18.2 in June, and the Democratic Party—9.2 per cent, from 11.9 per cent in June.

The performance of the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia in its first year elicited a positive rating from only 10 per cent of those polled.

The most popular political figure remains Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, but only about 20 per cent of those polled placed him at the top of their popularity lists, compared with 25.6 per cent of the June sample.

Oil, Iron Ore Production Increases

LD2808003192 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0911 GMT 27 Aug 92

[Excerpt] Belgrade, 27 Aug (TANJUG)—According to the latest information from the Serbian Economic Chamber, the January-July industrial production in Serbia fell by 13 percent in comparision with the same period last year. Production rose in only two branches of the industry: the production of iron ore rose by 79.6 percent and the production of oil and gas by 5.6 percent. [passage omitted]

Kosovo

Rugova, Eagleburger Discuss Ethnic Albanians

LD2968113892 Tirana ATA in English 1004 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Tirana, August 29 (ATA)—ATA correspondent from Kosovo reports: The president of the Republic of Kosovo, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova, leader of Kosovo delegation at the London international peace conference, met with U.S. secretary of state, Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger. During the meeting they exchanged views about the proceedings of the London conference on ex-Yugoslavia and the situation in this region paying special emphasis on the situation in Kosovo and the Albanian position in it.

On this occasion, the president of the Republic of Kosovo, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova briefed the chief of the U.S. diplomacy on the grave position the Albanians of Kosovo following the drastic political, military and police measures of Serbia and ex-Yugoslavia, through which the Serb occupation power is violating all rights both political and juridical.

The U.S secretary of state, Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger, after listening attentively to Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said that he has always concerned himself in the position of the Albanians in Kosovo and ex-Yugoslavia and this concern of his stems from the U.S. official policy. In this context he recalled once again that the United States of America support the correct solution of the Albanian question in Kosovo. Observing here all the their rights embodied also in the international documents signed by the U.S. and ex-Yugoslavia.

The president of the Republic of Kosovo, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova also met with the director general of [word indistinct] and of European for construction and development, Mr. Jacque Attali.

On his part, realising the economic hardships of the Albanians in Kosovo, Mr. Jacque Attali said that he will see to the possibility that together with the firm Reno to help Kosovo and its economically and politically stricken Albanians. He also aired understanding on the political options of the Albanians to correctly solve the question of Kosovo.

Rugova: Conference 'Good Chance' for Kosovo Issue

AU2908144692 Tirana ATA in English 0955 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Tirana, August 29 (ATA)—ATA correspondent reports from Kosovo:

The leader of the delegation of the Republic of Kosovo at the London Conference, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova, stated to the special correspondent of the newspaper RILINDJA in London, Avni Spahiu, that London conference was a good chance to further affirm the question of Kosovo and that the formation of a special group to examine the questions of Kosovo is a major and positive act.

Although the question of the war in Bosnia-Hercegovina was the major problem in this conference, specific attention was devoted to Kosovo at the plenary sittings of the conference.

Our presence, the President of the Republic of Kosovo Dr. Ibrahim Rugova added, although in the capacity of an observer, fulfilled its goal by means of contacts we had with the officials of the international organisations, foreign ministers, and state and political outstanding personalities.

We and Albania were for forming a special group as the problem of Kosovo is a specific and complicated and we consider as positive the fact that this group was decided to be included in the framework of a general group. I am optimistic that this group, presided over by Lord Owen will seriously work and engage in the problem of Kosovo as a whole.

Then he said that in general there was a pro-Kosovo tendency among the conference circles. It was of importance that Albania with its international authority came out in defence of our right and it will certainly do this in the future, too, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said.

Rugova, Bukoshi Meet With Officials at Conference

AU2808194492 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1330 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] The ATA correspondent in London reports that though not participating at the plenary meeting of the London conference, the Albanian delegation of Kosovo headed by Dr. Ibrahim Rugova is developing intensive activity through bilateral meetings held with the delegations of the participating states and the parties that are interested in the conflict in the former Yugoslavia.

Dr. Ibrahim Rugova and Dr. Bujar Bukoshi [Kosovo prime minister] held several meetings with UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali, Cyrus Vance, Lord Carrington, Alois Mock, Izetbegovic, De Bosse, and high officials of the conference. The Kosovar delegation also met the representative of the Muslims of Sandjak, Sulejman Ovlanin, and that of the British Conservative Party, Kelgin. The Kosovar delegation is satisfied so far with several of the attitudes that some foreign ministers of the participating countries maintained. Concerning the Kosovo question, they greeted the speech of the Canadian foreign minister.

Panic, Rugova Hold Mediated 'Casual Meeting'

AU2908202792 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1730 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] The ATA correspondent in London reports that Dr. Ibrahim Rugova, chairman of the Republic of Kosovo, held a meeting with Yugoslav Prime Minister Milan Panic.

Concerning this meeting, Rugova declared: We agreed to contact Panic as a sign of goodwill, which is in the spirit of this conference. We did not meet to start a dialogue, because we are upholding our own initiative and that of Lord Carrington. This was a casual meeting that was held in the presence of a mediator of the conference.

Dr. Rugova stressed that he and Panic presented their positions up to independence. [as heard] In his own style, Panic promised to open the University of Pristina, whereas concerning other questions, he was more reserved. We do not know what strong position Panic holds in Belgrade or what he can do, but we are ready for contacts, as we are for talks, concluded Dr. Rugova.

Vice-Chairman Satisfied With London Conference

LD2808133492 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1214 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Pristina, 28 Aug (TANJUG)—The London Conference on Yugoslavia has fulfilled our expectations, Fehmi Agani, vice-chairman of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo stated today at a news conference.

Agani noted that the independence of the Republic of Kosovo was given greater emphasis at the conference than ever before. The Albanian question was finally given appropriate attention by the international public. He said it is now time to prove the justifiability of our claims, because there is no just solution of the issue of Kosovo and Albanians within Serbia.

Agani stated that the policy of aggression by the Greater Serbian hegemonism has been completely defeated at the conference, as evidenced by the public reprimanded passed along even by Milan Panic. An attempt by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic to separate the human rights issue from the status of Albanians and Kosovo is completely nonsensical, Agani said.

According to Agani, the suspension of university education in Albanian is "a clear proof of what rights the Albanians can reckon with when others make decisions on their status." He labelled as hypocrisy the claim that 10,000 students have been invited to take entrance examinations for education in the Albanian language when it is known that 34,000 of them are elementary school-leavers.

In his address to the journalists, Agani focused on the London conference-Kosovo topic in order to express his gratitude to the representatives of Canada, Austria, Germany, Turkey, and Albania because of their approach to the resolution of the Kosovo problem. He also welcomed the Panic-Rugova meeting "irrespective of the outcome of talks."

Army Denies Maneuvers 'Under Way' in Kosovo

LD2808142292 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1237 GMT 28 Aug 92

[Text] Belgrade, 28 Aug (TANJUG)—In connection with the manipulations regarding the reserve army forces in Kosovo in certain foreign information media, the information service of the Yugoslav Army General Staff today announced that there are no army maneuvers under way in this province.

According to the same source, in Kosovo, within the framework of regular training and exercises, two percent of the reserve units of the Pristina corps have been called up.

These are men who are specialists, therefore, they require frequent training. This low percentage of men called up, according to the information service includes "soldiers being shipped to different following completion of their training."

Calling reserve army units up for training "is the usual practice in all armies of the world," the information service notes.

Vojvodina

Hungarian Leader Comments on Refugee Situation

LD3008201692 Budapest MTV Television Network in Hungarian 1730 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The issue of Bosnian refugees is causing great anxiety in Vajdasag [Vojvodina], where the Serbian Government would like to house more than 10,000 people in Hungarian-inhabited regions, evidently in the houses of ethnic Hungarians who have fled. Andras Agoston, chairman of the Democratic Community of Hungarians of Vajdasag, has stated that this is aimed at forcibly changing the nationality ratios.

Montenegro

Bulatovic Returns From London Conference, Comments

LD2908094992 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0826 GMT 29 Aug 92

[Text] Podgorica, August 29 (TANJUG)—All those who truly want peace, whose political priority is peace, are satisified with the London conference, Montenegrin Presidency President Momir Bulatovic said upon his return from London to Podgorica on Friday [29 August].

The initial reactions—who is satisfied and who isn't—might be the best indicator of the conference's success, Bulatovic said. Yugoslavia can be satisfied, while those, who have long been urging our political and physical lynch [as received], have expressed dissatisfaction with the conference results, Bulatovic said.

Bulatovic, who was a member of the Yugoslav delegation at the London confernece, believes the recognition of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is just a matter of time. He hopes this will happen "very soon" and that the sanctions will at least be eased if not altogether lifted.

Bulatovic said Butrus-Ghali's stand on UNPROFOR's [UN Protection Force] greater role in Bosnia-Hercegovina to protect humanitarian convoys was realistic. As regards the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, humanitarian convoys passing through its territory need no military protection, Bulatovic said.

Macedonia

Party Urges Financial, Defense Alliance With FRY

LD3008195992 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1251 GMT 30 Aug 92

[Text] Gostivar, August 30 (TANJUG)—The Party of Yugoslavs of Gostivar and Tetovo, towns in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, requested of the Macedonian Parliament on Sunday [30 August] to launch an initiative for setting up a monetary-financial and defence alliance between Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (F.R.Y), which is made up of Serbia and Montenegro.

The party proposed that the two sides would be independent in all other fields and develop their cooperation on mutual interests.

The republican parliament is obliged to do its utmost to form an alliance with the F.R.Y upon these principles in order to prevent foreign factors from carving Macedonia's fate as they want to.

Macedonia, a former Yugoslav Republic, has not won international recognition, because its neighbor Greece opposes it. Greece wants Macedonia to change its name because its northern province also bears that name.